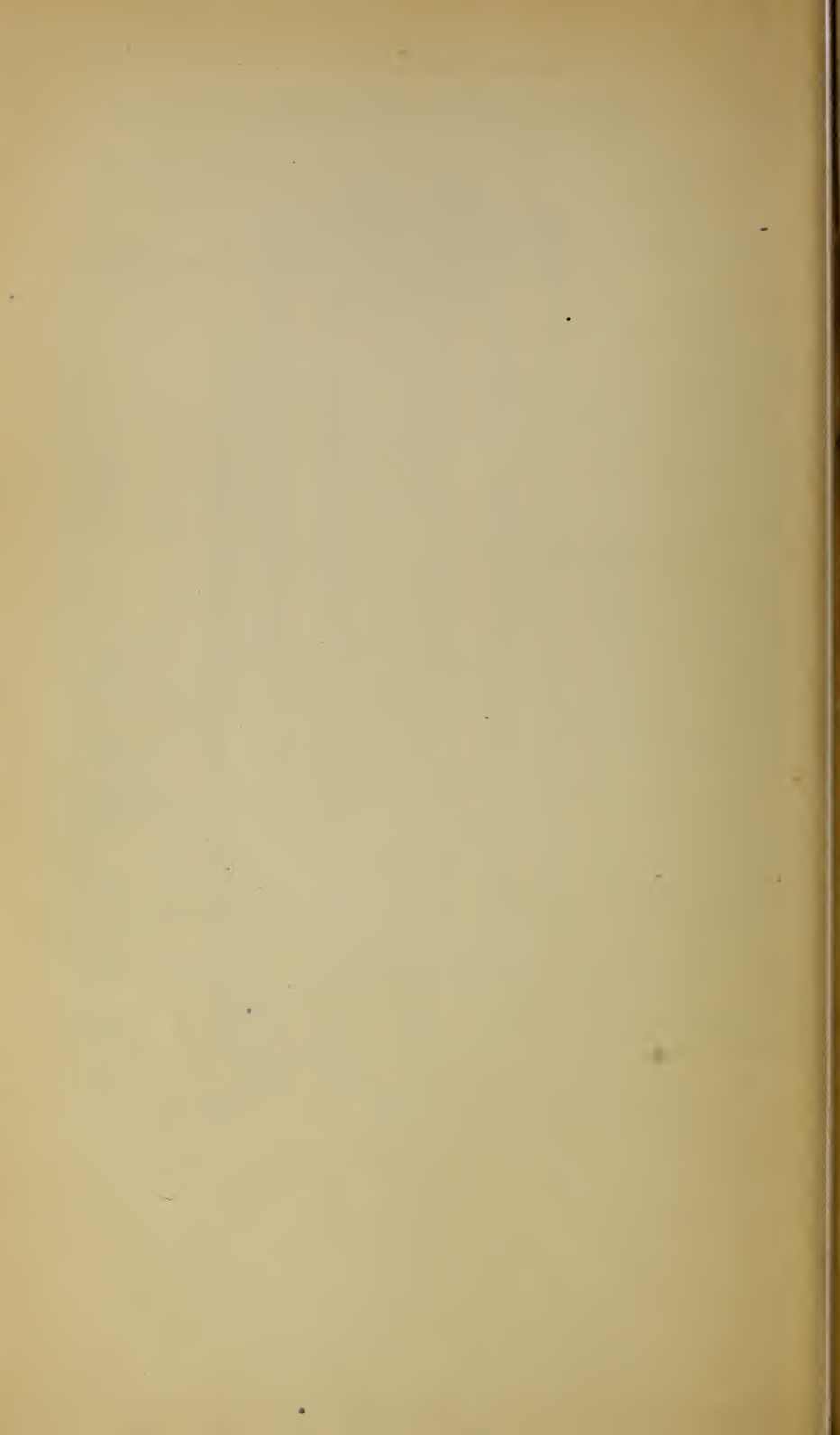


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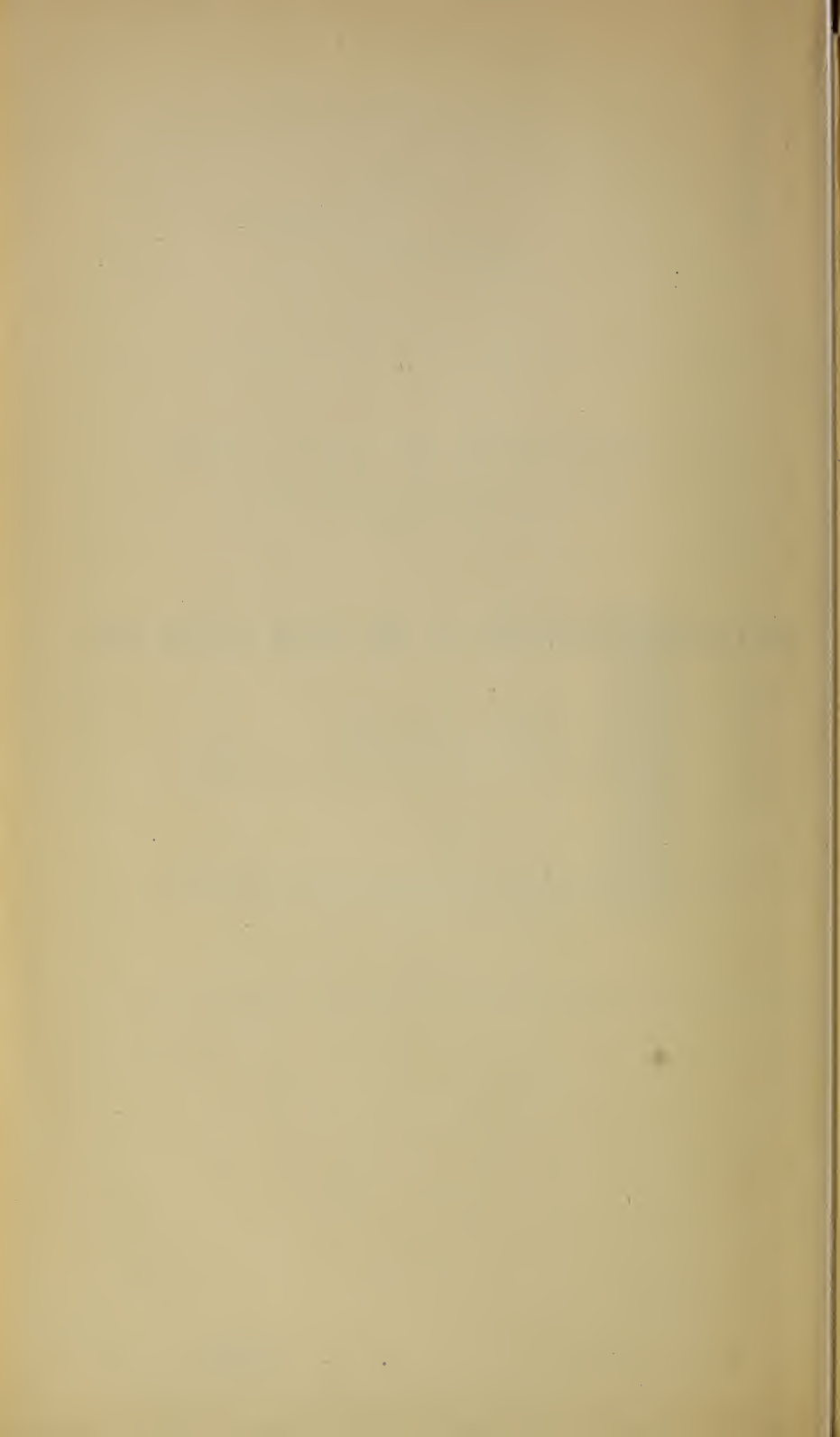
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
OFFICE OF EXPERIMENT STATIONS,
A. C. TRUE, DIRECTOR.

THE FARMERS' INSTITUTES IN THE UNITED STATES, 1905.

BY

JOHN HAMILTON,
Farmers' Institute Specialist, Office of Experiment Stations.

[Reprint from Annual Report of the Office of Experiment Stations for
the year ended June 30, 1905.]



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THE FARMERS' INSTITUTES IN THE UNITED STATES, 1905.

By JOHN HAMILTON,

Farmers' Institute Specialist, Office of Experiment Stations.

The condition of the farmers' institutes of the country for the year ended June 30, 1905, is approximately shown by the data supplied by the farmers' institute directors of the several States and Territories. Their reports show that institutes were held in all of the States excepting Florida, Tennessee, and South Dakota, and in all of the Territories excepting Alaska, Indian Territory, and Porto Rico.

The suspension of institutes in Florida for the year ended June 30, 1905, was due to a reorganization of the educational system of the State. The superintendent reports that the institute work will be resumed this year under the control of the university, as formerly.

The director of institutes for Tennessee states that while some few institutes were held in a number of the counties none were conducted by the State. During this time, however, he has been preparing for future institutes by organizing permanent institute societies in the several counties, and during the coming year the work will be taken up and systematically and vigorously urged.

The last legislature of South Dakota made an appropriation for farmers' institutes and provided for an institute committee to take control of the work. This committee has appointed an institute director, who has already selected a corps of instructors to aid him during the coming year.

Although no institutes were held last year in the three States referred to, they all now have the requisite machinery for carrying on the work, and farmers' institutes will therefore be held in every State of the Union next year.

During the past year the attendance at the farmers' institutes of the country has increased from 841,698 to 995,192, or an increase of 153,494. The total number of institutes held was 3,271, of which 1,842 were one-day, 1,307 were two-day, and 122 were three-day institutes, the whole comprising 10,555 sessions. The money appropriated for institute purposes was \$225,738.89, of which \$210,660.44 was expended. The number of institute lecturers employed regularly on the State force increased from 953 to 995.

Twenty States held round-up institutes, composed of 192 sessions, with a reported attendance of 30,410. Six States reported 167 institutes for boys, one State, New York, holding 92. Four hundred and fifty-four women's institutes were held in nine States.

Among the new features in institute work reported were the organization of women's clubs, and the holding of women's institutes by four States, the equipping of railway cars with corps of lecturers and illustrative material and starting them out as specials. The expenses of these trains were borne by the railway companies over whose lines they were run, and were frequently attended by railway officials who participated in the lecture service.

In one State whenever a two-day institute was held the second day was made a field day, and was devoted to field demonstrations, as corn and stock judging, spraying and the preparation of spraying mixtures, etc. One State is conducting cooperative experiments in connection with the State agricultural experiment station. Two others are conducting dairy schools continuing from two to five days each. Two States have been holding a series of farmers' picnics in the various counties, calling them summer institutes for farmers' families. One State held a school of methods in institute teaching at which institute lecturers and college students in agriculture were present. Three other States conducted schools of instruction for their institute workers at their State agricultural colleges or experiment stations. Another has united the annual meeting of the farmers' institute lecturers with that of the State teachers' association, the programme combining two sets of subjects—technical agriculture and common school instruction. One State has taken up as a leading topic the introduction of the teaching of agriculture in the rural schools, and another has adopted the plan of completing the discussion of one subject before another is permitted to be taken up, without regard to any time limit. Another experienced director has shortened the opening talk upon each subject and lengthened the discussion, and another has magnified the question-box idea and has devoted the major part of the time to the discussion of the various subjects which the question box furnishes.

Twenty-five directors replied to the inquiry as to methods by which the Department could assist them in their work; thirteen requested the Department to furnish institute lecturers; twenty requests were for institute literature and illustrative material and for personal visits and suggestions by the institute specialist.

In order to ascertain the most pressing needs of the institutes, as viewed from the standpoint of the local managers who have the duty of arranging for the local meetings, circular letters of inquiry were sent out to over 1,500 local managers of institutes in 25 States.

Replies were received from only 19 States, embracing but $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the total number of persons addressed.

The majority of those who replied stated that they had "no advice to offer." Of those who did make suggestions, $35\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, spoke of the need for a wider distribution of agricultural literature among farmers, and for supplying skilled specialists in agriculture as lecturers.

Almost every correspondent asked for some method by which increased attendance could be secured, particularly on the part of those who are backward in their agricultural practice and most need assistance. A number suggested corn shows as a means of improving the institutes and creating interest. Others advocated the introduction of lectures upon the teaching of agriculture in the public schools. Several were in favor of holding domestic science demonstrations. Comparatively little, however, that was new was elicited by this inquiry, showing that the movement is still in its formative stage, and that the views of the majority of the local managers as to the best methods to be pursued in its development have not yet become sufficiently well defined to warrant them in expressing decided opinions.

The need for careful study of the institute problem by experienced educators who understand the conditions that surround the agricultural people of this country is manifest, and State institute boards and directors should as speedily as possible define the lines of future progress in institute work and agree upon methods that ought to be adopted to secure the most beneficial results.

WORK OF THE INSTITUTE OFFICE.

The work of the Farmers' Institute Specialist, during the year, has been that of continuing aid to the State directors by distributing literature; by attending meetings of representative farmers; delivering addresses before farm organizations; aiding in the preparation of bulletins and circulars of information; by perfecting the organization of the work of the office, and by conducting correspondence.

During the year the States of Delaware, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, North Carolina, North Dakota, New York, Pennsylvania, Texas, West Virginia, and the Province of Ontario were visited and seventeen addresses were delivered.

A statistical report of the farmers' institute work of the country was prepared for the Yearbook of the Department, and an extended institute report consisting of 59 pages of printed matter was made out for the Annual Report of the Office of Experiment Stations, 1904. A bulletin on Agricultural Instruction for Adults in the British Empire, containing 96 pages, was published. Assistance was also given in editing the proceedings of the ninth annual meeting of the

American Association of Farmers' Institute Workers, a publication of the Department, consisting of 91 pages.

Six illustrative lectures prepared by expert scientists were edited under the general supervision of the institute specialist embracing the following subjects: Care of Milk, illustrated by 44 lantern slides, 12 pages; Potato Diseases and Their Treatment, illustrated by 47 lantern slides, 30 pages; Acid Soils, illustrated by 53 lantern slides, 28 pages; Profitable Cattle Feeding, illustrated by 45 lantern slides, 21 pages; Silage and Silo Construction for the South, illustrated by 50 lantern slides, 31 pages, and Essentials of Field Experimentation, illustrated by 32 lantern slides, 24 pages.

Bulletin No. 135, entitled "Legislation Relating to Farmers' Institutes in the United States and the Province of Ontario," has been revised. The names of 1,586 local institute managers have been secured and arrangements have been made for supplying these persons with farmers' institute literature.

The list of farmers' institute lecturers, known as Circular No. 51 of the Office of Experiment Stations, was revised and furnished to the State directors of institutes, and also to the directors of the experiment stations, accompanied with the request to the station directors that their official publications be sent regularly to those whose names have been thus supplied.

The exhibit room at the St. Louis Exposition assigned to the farmers' institute workers of the country was supplied during the continuance of the exposition with suitable literature and illustrative material.

The Bureau of Plant Industry of the Department of Agriculture furnished a man for about six weeks to represent it in its seed testing and investigation work in the farmers' institutes of Pennsylvania with excellent results. The chief of that Bureau has arranged for two members of his force to perform similar service during the coming institute season. If cooperation of this character could be secured generally with all of the representative interests of this Department the service would not only be appreciated by the State directors of institutes, but would do much to popularize the Department's work by placing directly in the possession of the men who need help valuable information which the Department has at hand, much of which under existing conditions is virtually inert.

Correspondence with farmers' institute workers and others has been conducted during the year, information given, and a large number of the Department's publications have been distributed.

There have been collected and compiled ready for publication histories of the farmers' institute movement in the United States, arranged by States and Territories, and there is also on hand ready for

publication a bulletin upon agricultural education for adult farmers in foreign countries.

Arrangements have been completed with a number of experts for the preparation of courses of study together with practicums suited to each, for use in movable schools of agriculture. The courses are upon the following subjects: Poultry rearing, cheese making, butter making, and fruit growing. Abstracts of these courses have been submitted and proper authorizations have been issued for their completion.

Several thousand copies of an address by the institute specialist upon normal schools of agriculture for farmers' institute workers were through the courtesy of the director of farmers' institutes of the State of Pennsylvania printed in pamphlet form and placed at the disposal of this Office. Many of these were sent out, accompanied by a letter calling attention to the publication. A large number of replies have been received, all cordially approving the project which the pamphlet advocates, and with a few exceptions indorsing the method proposed.

NEW FEATURES IN INSTITUTE WORK.

As has been stated, several new features have been developed in the farmers' institute work during the year in the direction of the improvement of the system. Two of these seem to be worthy of special mention. One is the holding of institutes devoted to a single topic, such as butter making, cheese making, poultry rearing, etc. These meetings were each continued for as much as three days and were conducted by a corps of specialists who confined their instruction to the particular topic that the institute had been called to consider.

The other new feature was the holding of a school of methods for farmers' institute workers. This school took up the work of the lecturer, the State director, the local manager, the presiding officer, and the various committees that have charge of the working up of the institute. The first of these new departures looks toward the making of the instruction in the institute more reliable and complete, and the other to the improvement of the methods in use in institute work.

Normal schools for farmers' institute workers were held in New York, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Illinois, with varying degrees of success. The purpose in all of these has been to endeavor to better fit the worker, particularly the lecturer, for institute service. The need for more and better teachers is the most pressing that now confronts the institute director, and it is realized that unless qualified instructors are supplied in greater numbers the work can not continue to develop. The matter, therefore, is of vital importance, and the movement in the States referred to is an effort to meet the diffi-

culty by assembling their institute teachers once each year for a week or ten days for the purpose of receiving instruction at the hands of scientific experts along the lines of their several specialties.

Now that the institute office of the Department has become established and the farmers' institute work of the country is becoming better understood, it may be well at this time to outline as definitely as possible the prospective field the farmers' institute work of the Department is likely to cover. By having such an outline at hand, those who are intrusted with the duty of providing means for meeting the requirements of this Department will be better able to determine what and how much should be first undertaken and the measures necessary for securing support sufficient to carry the purposes into effect.

STATE INSTITUTE ORGANIZATION.

In considering the obligation of the National Department of Agriculture to the several States in aid of their farmers' institute, it is necessary, first of all, to have defined as accurately and fully as possible the character and purpose of their work in this direction, and the most effective methods by which this purpose can be accomplished.

The foundation idea and purpose of the farmers' institute is educational—education along agricultural lines. As a means to this end there is the exciting of interest in agricultural affairs through meetings of agricultural people for conference, and through public addresses upon agricultural subjects by expert lecturers who call attention to the possibilities of this industry, giving instruction in the arts and sciences that underlie its successful pursuit.

The selecting of the best methods for securing this end is highly important. While it is altogether probable that no general and uniform system of farmers' institute management will ever be adopted by all of the States, there are nevertheless in every system certain essential features which each State will sooner or later be compelled to adopt if the needs of its agricultural people are to be properly met.

The first is that there must be competent central supervision—some board or individual having general direction of the institute work of the State. This is now practically undisputed. The only remaining question respecting it is the form that this central supervision or control shall assume, and its limitations.

The next essential, not however so universally accepted, is that of a permanent institute organization for each county. This is necessary in order that there may always be a body of men and women in each county who are personally interested in the institute work and that plans may be undertaken which require considerable periods of time to execute fully.

The third feature necessary to a complete system in order that the benefits of the work may be enjoyed is that of accessibility. Institute organizations should be sufficiently numerous in a county to be easily accessible to all of the citizens so that those who desire may have opportunity to become identified with the organization and enjoy its advantages. Township agricultural organizations and local farm clubs provide means for meeting this need.

A fourth necessity is that of an adequate supply of competent instructors available when needed. A properly organized system must provide for the education of its teaching force. This necessity is now recognized by most of the States.

These requirements, essential in any complete system of institutes for a State, may be scheduled under the following heads:

- (1) A State board of institute supervision.
- (2) County farmers' institute organizations.
- (3) Township farmers' institute societies.
- (4) Farm clubs for minor districts.
- (5) Interstate normal colleges for farmers' institute workers.

AID BY THE NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

The work of the National Department of Agriculture as it relates to the institutes is in the direction of assisting the States in rendering their systems most efficient for the upbuilding of their farming industry. The present law limits aid by the Department to "investigating and reporting upon the organization and progress of farmers' institutes in the several States and Territories and upon similar organizations in foreign countries, with special suggestions of plans and methods for making such organizations more effective for the dissemination of the results of the work of the Department of Agriculture and the agricultural experiment stations, and of improved methods of agricultural practice." As the law now stands the scope of the institute work of the Department is limited to "investigation, report, and suggestion of plans and methods." This restriction confines the field of institute work to limits quite below those which the Department naturally possesses.

The act of May 16, 1862, creating a Department of Agriculture declares that its "general design and duties shall be to acquire and diffuse among the people of the United States useful information on subjects connected with agriculture in the most general and comprehensive sense of that word." The "diffusing" of information is therefore an obligation specifically conferred and enjoined upon the Department.

Ought not the farmers' institute work of the Department, in order to be in harmony with the declared purpose of the Department and

with that of the State systems, be empowered not only to "investigate, report, and suggest," but also to disseminate information, and to do this by means of lecturers employed and sent out by the Department, and by giving practical demonstrations in class rooms, laboratories, and fields? Be authorized, in short, to cooperate with and assist the States in their various forms of institute work by actually carrying out in a practical way the plans and methods that its investigations have enabled it to recommend.

If the Department is to meet the needs of the States in the direction outlined by the schedule presented, it will be necessary for it so to enlarge its present equipment and institute organization as to provide expert assistance in all of the directions that the State institutes need help, whether in their lecture fields, their demonstration schools, the preparation of their teaching force, the distribution of literature, the gathering of institute information, the printing of charts the preparation of lectures, the giving of expert advice, or in perfecting the several State institute systems. In all of these respects the Department should be prepared to furnish aid. This means—

(1) Provision for a corps of farmers' institute lecturers to represent the Department before the agricultural people of the country. This force should be composed of experts competent to represent properly the various bureaus and divisions in their investigation work and thoroughly acquainted with the progress of similar work throughout the world.

(2) That the Department arrange to demonstrate the practicability and value of movable schools of agriculture. There are evidences that the farmers' institute work as it has hitherto been conducted has in some of the older States about reached its limit of effectiveness, and unless some advance is made upon the methods previously employed the work will retrograde and lose caste as an educational institution.

The institutes of the present time have devoted themselves chiefly to creating an interest in agriculture. They have shown to farming people that there is a large amount of scientific information in existence that is available for their use, and they have demonstrated also that it is possible to present this scientific information in an understandable way to men and women who have never had scientific training. The institutes have done this largely by means of lectures covering a great variety of agricultural topics, the lecture being in no case a complete discussion of any branch or topic, but merely a presentation of a small part of the great subject to which it refers. The equipping of movable schools, that shall give instruction to limited classes regularly organized and pledged to attendance for a

specified period opens up a field of effort and usefulness for the institute movement that is not occupied by any other institution. The method proposes to concentrate instruction upon a single agricultural operation and teach that as thoroughly as possible by means of courses of study and practicums prepared specially for rural classes. By attendance upon a school of this character farmers who are interested in self-improvement will have the advantage of instruction by an expert upon important agricultural subjects, continued for a period sufficient to enable them to become quite well informed upon at least a single branch and to be equipped for applying what they have learned to the actual operation of their farms.

Into this new field the Department of Agriculture might enter by selecting and sending out experts and supplying them with appropriate apparatus for giving instruction in one or more agricultural specialties, doing this with the consent of and in cooperation with the State officials in charge of the institute work. During the introductory stages of the movement this Department might act merely as a demonstrator, showing the methods that ought to be pursued in conducting this work and the practicability and usefulness of the new system. The fact that this method of instruction is new in the United States makes it necessary that demonstration schools shall be sent out to exhibit its features and prove their value. The National Department of Agriculture can very properly take the lead in the introduction of a method that promises so much for the elevation of agricultural people and the advancement of agricultural interests.

(3) The Department should also prepare outlines of courses of study for schools of the character just indicated. No such courses have yet been prepared in this country, and it is undoubtedly a legitimate part of the work of the National Department to secure the services of experts who shall make inquiry as to the methods that have been successfully pursued in foreign countries in imparting agricultural instruction by this means and adapt these methods as far as possible to the conditions that prevail in the United States.

(4) In like manner it is important that the National Department should prepare and publish sets of illustrated lectures upon agricultural subjects and also sets of agricultural charts for the use of institute lecturers. The proposition is for the Department to secure the services of experts to prepare agricultural charts in series and have them printed in colors and properly mounted for use. Work of this character is assumed by governments abroad, and advantage in some of these countries has been taken by colleges and lower schools to secure sets for use in class-room work. The originating of lectures and charts is undoubtedly a proper part of the work of the National

Department of Agriculture in its leadership of agricultural thought and progress.

There is also very much needed by institute workers a handbook containing agricultural statistics, standard tables, and other agricultural information useful for reference. If such a handbook of pocket size, printed upon a good quality of linen paper and bound with flexible cover, were prepared, it would be a great convenience to farmers' institute workers in answering questions and in preparing addresses. No complete book of this character is in existence, and its preparation, therefore, would not interfere with any existing publication, but would be along new lines and would meet a special and increasing need.

The material just outlined is of such character as to be of universal adaptability, and when once prepared can be duplicated at a slight cost and thus be made available to all of the institute workers of the country.

(5) The necessity for increasing the number of capable teachers for institute service has become urgent. The difficulties connected with the securing of such a supply is likely to prove a serious embarrassment in the prosecution of this work. The agricultural colleges and experiment stations have hitherto been depended upon in most of the States to supply expert instructors for institute service. Until recently it has been possible for the teaching force in the colleges and the men in charge of the experiment-station work to give a considerable portion of their time for institute instruction, but the great increase of students that has occurred in the past few years in the land-grant colleges and the great demand that there is for information at the hands of the experiment stations has made it practically impossible for these men to longer spare time from their regular work as teachers and investigators in the institutions to which they severally belong, to devote even a small portion of it to the farmers' institutes. This is withdrawing a most valuable part of the instruction heretofore given in the institute schools, which must be immediately replaced or the educational work of the institutes will be seriously impaired.

To supply men competent to give the instruction required will demand that some method for educating the institute lecturers shall be devised and put into effect. A plan that has been proposed is for several States to unite and form normal colleges for this purpose in connection with the agricultural colleges and experiment stations, depending upon the colleges and stations for such assistance as they may be able to contribute and upon the State boards of institute directors for additional aid in carrying on the work.

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF FARMERS' INSTITUTE WORKERS.

The American Association of Farmers' Institute Workers held its tenth annual meeting in Washington, D. C., November 9-11, 1905. The registered attendance numbered 92, representing 29 States and 3 of the provinces of Canada.

The programme avoided technical subjects and devoted the time to the presentation and discussion of the wider questions of institute organization and influence. The method of computing the attendance at the institutes was changed by the adoption of the following resolutions:

In view of the inaccuracy and misleading character of the method now in use by this association for computing institute attendance: Therefore be it

Resolved, First. That hereafter the number in attendance at each session of each institute shall be ascertained by actual count and recorded, and the aggregate of all of the sessions shall be reported as the total attendance for the year. This aggregate, divided by the number of sessions, shall be regarded as the average attendance at each session.

Second. That attendance at the annual round-up of institute workers, out-door picnics, harvest-home meetings, and similar assemblages of farmers addressed by institute speakers shall be reported separately from the regular institutes, the total attendance for the entire meeting to be given instead of the number present at each session.

An important change in the organization of the association was effected by the appointment of standing committees on the following subjects: Rural schools, institute organization and methods, institute lecturers, cooperation with other educational agencies, movable schools, boys' and girls' institutes, women's institutes, and legislation. The committees consist of three members each, to be chosen by the executive committee. Their duties are to consider during the intervals between the annual meetings of the association the subjects severally assigned and report the results of their investigation to the annual meetings of the association, accompanied by such recommendations as they may deem proper to present.

The executive committee was authorized and advised, in fixing the dates for future meetings of the association, to select either the week immediately preceding or the week immediately following that chosen by the Association of American Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations.

The officers elected for the year 1906 were: President, G. C. Creelman, president of the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, Ontario; vice-president, W. W. Miller, secretary of agriculture, Columbus, Ohio; secretary, John Hamilton, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

THE STATE REPORTS.

The changes that have occurred during the year in the institute work of the country and its progress are noted in the brief statements which follow, given under the names of the several States and Territories, and in the tabulated statistics which form a part of this report.

The institute specialist desires to express his appreciation of the valuable assistance which he has received from the State directors in supplying him with the necessary data by which he is enabled to know what is being done in each State and Territory in institute affairs, and to present suggestions that may be of service in solving some of the difficulties that now retard the development of the institute phase of industrial education.

FARMERS' INSTITUTES IN THE SEVERAL STATES AND TERRITORIES.

ALABAMA.

The farmers' institute work in Alabama is under the direction of the board of trustees of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute and of the agricultural experiment station. There is no State law regulating or controlling the work. Last year there was appropriated by the college \$600 for institute expenses. Twenty-four institutes were held, consisting of 48 sessions, with a total attendance of 3,820. Eight lecturers were employed by the State director for institute service.

The director of institutes is appointed for the period of one year by the board of trustees of the Polytechnic Institute and the agricultural experiment station. Seven members of the college and station staffs participated in the institute work. There are no permanent local institute organizations. The director arranges the programmes, attends to the advertising, and fixes the dates and places for the institutes. The sum of \$600 has been appropriated for institute work for the season ending June 30, 1906.

No report of institute proceedings is printed. A six to ten day round-up or convention of institute workers is held annually at the college. At the convention last year there were 40 sessions distributed through eight days, with 245 persons in attendance. The institute meetings are not limited to any particular season, but are distributed throughout the year.

ALABAMA INSTITUTES FOR COLORED PEOPLE.

Farmers' institutes for colored people have been organized under the direction of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. The expenses of the institutes are met by the localities in which they are

held. Meetings are advertised by circulars, personal letters, and through the agency of the various pulpits of the surrounding country. The formation of local organizations to meet once each month is encouraged. The lecture service is performed chiefly by the members of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. Twelve one-day meetings were held last year, consisting of twelve sessions, attended by 300 persons.

ALASKA.

Farmers' institutes have not yet been organized in Alaska, but Prof. C. C. Georgeson, the special agent in charge of the experiment station at Sitka, as he visits the various districts takes advantage of the opportunity to give advice as to more advanced methods that might be employed in improving the agriculture of the several localities.

ARIZONA.

The legislative assembly of Arizona in 1903 passed an act providing for "the establishment of farmers' institutes and short courses of instruction throughout the Territory." For this purpose the sum of \$2,700 was appropriated. The law places the control of the institutes in the hands of the board of regents of the university. The institute work for the past year consisted of one week of lectures at Thatcher Academy, Thatcher, Ariz. There was an average attendance of about 50 persons at each meeting.

ARKANSAS.

Arkansas has no farmers' institute legislation. An attempt was made at the session of the legislature of 1904 to secure an appropriation for institute purposes. The bill failed by a very narrow margin, but the effort to secure an appropriation will be renewed.

Thirty one-day institutes, composed of 60 sessions, however, were held under the auspices of the University of Arkansas and the Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station. The total attendance was 7,650 and the entire cost about \$400. There were four lecturers upon the State force, all of whom were contributed by the university and by the experiment station. These lecturers gave thirty-six days of time to the institute work. The dates, places, and programmes of the institutes were arranged by the director of the agricultural experiment station, in cooperation with citizens of the localities in which the institutes were held. Two hundred and fifty dollars has been appropriated for institute work for the year ended June 30, 1906. This sum is outside of any services that may be rendered by the State director.

CALIFORNIA.

The institute work in California is under the general direction of the superintendent of farmers' institutes, assisted by two conductors, one having the central and northern portions of the State, and the other having charge of the institute work in the southern section.

The legislature of 1903 authorized the board of regents of the University of California to hold farmers' institutes under such rules and regulations as they may deem proper, and at such times and places as they may direct. The law directs that the "course of instruction at such institutes shall be so arranged as to present to those in attendance the results of the most recent investigations in theoretical and practical agriculture." The legislature of 1905 appropriated \$12,000 for institute work for the next two fiscal years.

During the last year institutes were held in 32 out of the 57 counties. Owing to local climatic conditions and corresponding leisure seasons in various parts of the State, institutes are held every month in the year. There were 114 institutes in all, composed of 429 sessions. The total attendance was 43,494. The cost of the institutes for the year was \$8,934. The university contributed \$2,934 of this amount, and \$6,000 was received from the State appropriation. Six thousand copies of the proceedings were printed and distributed to persons on the regular mailing list of the agricultural experiment station. There were 25 lecturers employed by the State director, 10 of whom were members of the agricultural college and experiment station staffs. The college and station contributed one hundred days of lecture service. The arranging of dates, places, and the preparation of programmes for institutes are in the hands of the superintendent.

The superintendent provides two lecturers for each one-day institute, and three lecturers for each institute continued two days or more. There are no special or permanent local organizations in the several counties, but a local committee appointed by the last institute takes charge, under the general direction of the State superintendent, of the work of preparation for future meetings. Correspondence courses in agricultural science in its various branches have been added to the institute activities, and the superintendent reports that these courses are being well received.

COLORADO.

The farmers' institute work in Colorado has recently been placed in charge of the agricultural department of the State agricultural college, to be supervised by the dean of agriculture of that institution, aided by an assistant superintendent. In this State the only law that relates to farmers' institutes is the one in regard to the duties of the State board of agriculture, where, under the "duties of the secretary,"

the act directs that "he shall encourage the formation of agricultural societies throughout the State." The funds with which to carry on the work have hitherto been contributed by the State agricultural college. The legislature of 1905 appropriated \$8,000 for farmers' institute work to be expended during the years 1905 and 1906. The new appropriation becomes available September 1, 1905. Twenty institutes were held, made up of 52 sessions, and the total attendance was 2,700. The lecture force was provided from the staffs of the agricultural college and experiment station. Twelve persons were sent out on this service, contributing in the aggregate fifty days of time. There has been no arrangement made for the publication of the proceedings.

CONNECTICUT.

Connecticut has no special law regulating the holding of farmers' institutes. The State board of agriculture, the Connecticut Dairy-men's Association, and the Pomological Society are each carrying on institute work in the State. These different organizations receive money from the State for the benefit of agriculture in general—the Dairymen's Association for the dairy interests, the Pomological Society for the interests of fruit growing. The methods used by these different organizations in carrying on their work and disseminating information are entirely in their own discretion. Each has an institute committee appointed to have charge of the institute work. The board of agriculture requires that localities applying for institutes shall "furnish a suitable hall, provide local transportation for speakers and visitors, music if desired, and entertain by collation or otherwise, unless there are convenient hotel accommodations." The board pays for printing, traveling expenses, and services of speakers.

During the past year there has been cooperation between the three societies, and the institutes were held in common, instead of separately as heretofore. A general round-up or annual meeting of the institute workers is held each year, lasting from two to three days.

Fourteen institutes were held during the year, made up of 28 sessions, and attended by about 1,200 persons. There are 30 lecturers upon the institute force of the State. Six of these were furnished by the State agricultural college. No reports of the proceedings of the institutes are published. There are no specific local organizations for conducting institutes, but the superintendents depend upon the local granges and farm clubs for cooperation.

DELAWARE.

The legislature of the State of Delaware in 1903 amended the law respecting farmers' institutes, which formerly permitted a separate institute director for each of the three counties, by providing "that

the State board of agriculture may appoint a director of farmers' institutes for the State to cooperate with the farmers' institutes of the several counties." The sum of \$600 is annually appropriated for institute purposes and is apportioned equally among the three counties. The salary of the superintendent is provided for outside of this amount. The law provides that the failure of any county to hold an institute in any year shall forfeit its appropriation. The objects of the institutes, as declared by the law, shall be "the discussion, orally or by written essays or papers, of agricultural and kindred questions, and for the dissemination of agricultural knowledge among the farmers of the State."

Twenty institutes were held during the past season, made up of 23 sessions, and attended by 4,199 persons. Nine lecturers were on the State force. Two of these were furnished by the agricultural college and the experiment station, contributing ten days of time to the institute work. The total expense amounted to \$750. The director of institutes is also secretary of the State board of agriculture.

Local institute organizations are provided for by an act of the legislature, which requires that there shall be a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and an executive committee for each county organization, and that these officers shall receive no compensation and are to hold their office for one year. Five thousand copies of the report of the State board of agriculture are printed. This report includes the proceedings of the farmers' institutes.

FLORIDA.

Authority to hold farmers' institutes is committed by the State to the board of trustees of the Florida Agricultural College and the agricultural experiment station. The superintendent is appointed by the board of trustees of the college and station, to whom, in connection with the president of the college, has been delegated the power to make rules for the holding of institute meetings and to expend the money appropriated for institute purposes.

The local organizations consist of a chairman in each county appointed by the superintendent of institutes, with authority to make all necessary local arrangements for institute meetings. The superintendent, in addition to his duties as director of farmers' institutes, is also professor of agriculture in the agricultural college of Florida. The dates and places for all institutes are arranged by the superintendent, and notices of meetings are published from three to four weeks in advance.

The legislature of 1904 failed to make an appropriation for institute support, consequently no institutes have been held this year. The following announcement by the University of Florida shows the

situation as well as the attitude of the university toward the institute movement:

The legislature having made no appropriation for this purpose for the past year, no farmers' institutes have been conducted under the regular control and direction of the university. Such work, however, has been done as has been possible with the funds at the institution's disposal; and it is believed that much good would come to the agricultural population of the State by the regular establishment and conduct of farmers' institutes in various sections. The purpose of such institutes is to present practical and timely information to the farmer, and the results hitherto obtained have been most gratifying. The director, agriculturist, horticulturist, and other members of the station staff, and many prominent specialists in agriculture have taken part in these institutes, and the university anticipates their becoming a permanent feature of its usefulness.

GEORGIA.

The legislature of Georgia in April, 1904, recognized the farmers' institute work by making an appropriation to the University of Georgia in the following terms: "To the University of Georgia for farmers' institutes, \$2,500." This appropriation became available September 1, 1904, and was for one year. In addition to this the trustees of the university set aside \$1,000 from the general funds of the institution for farmers' institute purposes. Forty institutes were held during the year, consisting of 108 sessions, attended by about 18,000 persons. Thirteen lecturers were upon the State force, 7 of whom were representatives of the faculty of the agricultural college and of the experiment station staff. These two institutions contributed fifty-four days of time to institute service.

No institutes had been held in Georgia for several years until 1903. Now they have been organized in each senatorial district, with local officers in each county embraced in the district. Each locality is expected to secure a suitable hall for meeting, without charge to the State superintendent, and to provide all of the local accommodations needed for successfully conducting the meeting. The State supplies from two to three lecturers to each institute, whose expenses are paid out of the agricultural college funds and the appropriation. The dates, places, and programmes for the institutes have thus far been arranged by the director. Meetings are advertised at least two weeks in advance by means of the county press. Five thousand copies of reports of the institutes were printed and distributed during the year.

IDAHO.

The legislature of 1905 appropriated \$2,000 for institute work in Idaho for two years. The control of the institutes and the expenditure of the money are intrusted to the board of regents of the college of agriculture of the University of Idaho. Twenty-five institutes

were held during the year, made up of 113 sessions. Four thousand persons were in attendance. There are 14 lecturers upon the State force, 10 of whom are members of the agricultural college and experiment station staffs, who were present at all of the institutes and contributed fifty days of time. The dates, places, and programmes are all arranged by the superintendent of institutes, and announcements of the dates, places, and speakers are made from four to eight weeks in advance of the meetings. Brief reports of the discussions are prepared by the secretary, published, and sent to the regular mailing list of the experiment station and to all of the institute workers in the United States.

The form of local organization consists of an institute committee in each locality, which serves until another institute is held, and then it is either reappointed or a new one elected. The committee is organized by the election of a chairman at the institute meeting and the appointment of a secretary, together with such special committees as are needed.

ILLINOIS.

The Illinois Farmers' Institute is organized under a special act of the legislature and is a public corporation of the State. "It consists of three delegates from each county of the State, elected annually at the farmers' institutes of the county," and is managed by a board of trustees "consisting of the State superintendent of public instruction, the professor of agriculture of the University of Illinois, the president of the State board of agriculture, the president of the State Horticultural Society, the president of the State Dairymen's Association, and one member from each Congressional district of the State, to be selected by the delegates from the district present at the annual meeting." The officers of this board of directors are "a president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, a State superintendent of farmers' institutes, and such other officers or agents as may be deemed proper for organizing and conducting the work of the organization, all of whom shall hold their office for one year, unless removed sooner by the board, and shall perform such duties as may be required of them by the rules of the board."

Article 5 of this act prescribes the duties of the State superintendent of institutes:

SECTION 1. The State superintendent of institutes shall have general supervision of institute work in the State under the direction of the board of directors and of the executive committee.

SEC. 2. He shall make recommendations as to lines of work which he believes will prove profitable for the ensuing year, together with general plans for their execution, and estimates of expenses. He shall make such other recommendations to the board of directors as he may deem for the best interest of the institute work.

SEC. 3. He shall visit the county institute and district conferences when invited to do so by the county institute officers or directors, or when in his judgment the institute work demands such visit.

SEC. 4. He shall have charge of the publication of the annual report and shall insert therein such matters as will advance the agricultural interests of the State, under the direction of the executive committee.

SEC. 5. He shall be librarian of the farmers' institute free libraries, and shall submit to the board of directors or to the executive committee, for approval, lists of books which he deems ought to be purchased for the use of the libraries when such are needed.

SEC. 6. He shall make a detailed annual report in writing to the board of directors at the last meeting of the old board of his acts and doings during the year, together with a general summary of the institute work of the State for the year. He shall also make such other reports during the year as the board of directors or executive committee may require.

One hundred institute meetings were held last year, 50 being two days and 50 being three or more days. There were 635 sessions. One hundred and fourteen speakers are listed on the lecture force, 28 of whom are members of the agricultural college and experiment station staffs. The total attendance is given by the superintendent as 69,759. An institute was held in every county in the State. The total cost amounted to \$19,257.90. The local organizations in the several counties elect their own officers and formulate their own rules. They are permitted to select their own speakers and to choose such topics for discussion as they believe will be of interest to their respective localities.

Each county farmers' institute is entitled to the sum of \$75 per annum on condition "that such institute shall file with the secretary of the Illinois Farmers' Institute a sworn statement which shall show that the said county farmers' institute has held one or more duly advertised sessions annually, of not less than two days each, at some easily accessible location." This statement shall also include "an itemized exhibit of the expenses of the meeting, with receipted vouchers therefor, a copy of its printed programme, and the printed proceedings showing the title and author of the papers read and by whom discussed, place or places of meeting, with average daily attendance, and such other information as may be called for by the Illinois Farmers' Institute and necessary to successfully assist this work."

The Illinois Farmers' Institute is authorized to award one free scholarship in the college of agriculture, good for two years, for each county in the State and one for each Congressional district of Chicago. The awards are made on the recommendation of the farmers' institute director for each Congressional district.

Free circulating libraries are distributed among the several county institutes. Fifty-one of these libraries have been equipped and sent out, each containing about fifty volumes. A round-up meeting of the institute workers was held during the year, lasting through nine

sessions, and having an attendance of about 8,000 persons. The superintendent reports as a new feature of their work the combination of teachers' and farmers' institutes. The teaching of agriculture in the public schools and the consolidation of rural schools have been made special features and were discussed at every institute held throughout the State.

The Scott County Farmers' Institute during the past year succeeded in inducing 19 boys to study corn judging under an expert corn judge. These boys attended all of the day sessions of the institute, acting as judges of corn brought up from the county for competition, and as a premium for the best work done in corn judging one boy had his entire expenses paid at the Corn Growers' Convention in January at the University of Illinois, where he had opportunity to earn a certificate as an expert corn judge. The expenses of sending a boy to the Corn School at Urbana is the cost of the round-trip ticket and board for two weeks, amounting from \$10 to \$20. Several counties are planning to introduce the corn-judging contest into their institutes this year.

The Illinois Farmers' Institute is required to make an annual report to the governor of its transactions, which report shall include papers pertaining to its work and addresses made at the annual meeting of the organization. Twenty thousand copies of this report are required to be printed each year, one-half for the use of the Illinois Farmers' Institute and the remainder for the secretary of state for distribution through the members of the general assembly.

INDIANA.

The laws of the State of Indiana require—

the committee of experimental agriculture and horticulture of the board of trustees, together with the faculty of the school of agriculture of Purdue University, to appoint before November 1 of each year suitable persons to hold county institutes in the several counties of the State between the 1st day of November and the 1st day of April, each year, for the purpose of giving to farmers and others interested therein instruction in agriculture, horticulture, agricultural chemistry, and economic entomology.

Section 2 of the act provides that—

such institutes shall be held at such times and places as said committee and faculty may determine, and under such rules, regulations, and methods of instruction as they may prescribe: *Provided, however,* That such institutes shall be so conducted as to give to those attending results of the latest investigations in theoretical and practical agriculture and horticulture.

Ten thousand dollars per annum has been appropriated for bearing the expenses of the lecturers and paying such items as may be necessary for the proper conduct of the work. The director of institutes is appointed by the trustees of Purdue University, the present

officer being the professor of agriculture in the university and advisory agriculturist of the experiment station.

During the year 250 institutes were held, 117 of which were two-day meetings. The total number of sessions was 883, and the attendance is given at 79,964. The cost was \$10,000. The number of lecturers upon the State force was 46, 8 of whom were members of the agricultural college and experiment station staffs, who contributed twelve days of time. The schedule, including dates and programmes, is arranged by the superintendent, and the places are decided by conference with the local officers. Two State lecturers are provided for each institute, with an occasional expert speaker to discuss some special topic. Members of the college and station staffs attend institutes without charge, except for their expenses, and at times when their duties do not seriously interfere. An annual conference is held each year, as are also district institutes, comprising a number of counties, and for which special programmes are provided. A new feature of the work is a plan for competition by young people at the institutes and at the county fairs. Premiums for exhibits of corn, oats, poultry, butter, and bread, grown or made by young people between the ages of 12 and 20 who live on farms, are offered by one fair association.

The county farmers' institute or home makers' association will duplicate the premiums offered by the fair association upon the following conditions:

(1) The exhibits will be made at the several farmers' institutes to be held in the county during the season as may hereafter be designated.

(2) Each exhibitor must be present in person, submit in writing a description not exceeding 500 words of the method employed in growing the crops or poultry or in making butter or bread, and read the same at the institute.

(3) Each exhibitor must certify to the area and yield of crop or age and breed of fowls, etc., and that the article was produced by the exhibitor. This certified statement must be attested by two witnesses.

(4) Each person will be permitted to exhibit in but one class and make but a single entry.

A form of constitution for county institute organizations has been recommended, and was approved and adopted by 50 of the 92 counties of the State in 1904. The constitution provides that any resident of the county over 16 years of age may become a member by payment of the annual dues; that the officers shall consist of a president, secretary, assistant secretary, treasurer, and one vice-president for each township in the county. The president, secretary, treasurer, and the several vice-presidents constitute an executive committee, which has charge of the affairs of the association in intervals between the meetings. This committee, upon the request of the State superintendent, is required to suggest desirable dates and places for farmers' institutes, themes for speakers, and give such other information as the superintendent may desire in arranging the schedules of institutes. The

constitution also provides for "a woman's auxiliary for the purpose of holding special or separate sessions of the institute for women." A series of summer institutes designed especially for farmers' families was undertaken this year with marked success. At these summer institutes the topic discussed was some phase of domestic science. The advertising of the institute is left entirely to the local organizations, which for this purpose use postals, postal-card programmes, personal letters, and the local press. Six hundred to 1,000 copies of abstracts of the proceedings are printed and distributed each year.

INDIAN TERRITORY.

Farmers' institutes have not been organized in the Territory.

IOWA.

There is no central organization or State superintendent of farmers' institutes in Iowa, but each county is entitled to organize an institute when forty or more farmers meet and elect a president, secretary, treasurer, and an executive committee of not less than three outside of such officers, and hold an institute meeting, remaining in session not less than two days in each year. Upon presenting proof to the county auditor of such organization and such institute having been held, and an itemized statement showing the manner in which the money used has been expended, it is the duty of the county auditor to certify the statement to the auditor of the State, who upon receipt of such certification is required to remit to the treasurer of the county his warrant, not to exceed \$75 in any one year. Last year 60 institutes were held in 60 out of the 99 counties in the State. The State appropriation amounted to \$7,425.

The absence of any State organization or board of control has made it impossible to obtain complete data respecting the work. The secretary of the State department of agriculture has contributed the only information that it has been possible to secure. The attendance is estimated at 18,000, the number of sessions at 207, and the amount expended \$3,814.60. No complete report of the institute proceedings is published, but some of the best papers read before the local institutes are published in the Yearbook of Agriculture. A State round-up meeting was held in Des Moines, consisting of two sessions, and having an attendance of 300. During the year an organization of the institute workers of the eastern counties of Iowa was effected for the purpose of cooperation in securing lecturers and arranging the dates and places for institute meetings.

KANSAS.

The legislature of Kansas of 1903 passed an act providing for the formation of county farmers' institute associations. Such associations under this act shall consist of a president, vice-president, secretary, and treasurer, and it must adopt a constitution and by-laws for its government. The county institute association is entitled to the sum of \$50 from the county to bear the legitimate expenses of a two-days' institute, and the legislature has provided in addition an appropriation of \$2,000 per year to the State agricultural college to be used in paying the expenses of the members of the faculty and experiment station who attend institutes. The duties of State director are performed by the chairman of a committee appointed by the president of the college on institute work. The present official in charge of the institute work is also director of the agricultural experiment station.

Fifty-five institutes were held during the year. Twenty-six were one-day, 20 were two-day, and 9 were continued for over three days. The number of sessions was 144. The total attendance was 11,455. The cost of the institutes was \$1,760, not counting the salary of the director or of the college and station speakers. All of the speakers on the State force were either agricultural college or experiment station officers. Nineteen of these lecturers were engaged in institute work last year, and the total number of days in which they were employed was 320. A number of the institute force accompanied a special train in a trip throughout the State, which was fitted up for promoting the dairy industry.

The chairman of the State institute committee arranges the dates, places, and programmes for institute meetings. The proceedings are not published, except brief abstracts by local papers.

KENTUCKY.

Kentucky has no specific farmers' institute law. The work is conducted under authority given in the following extract from the general law prescribing the duties of the State bureau of agriculture:

The efforts of the bureau shall be directed to the promotion of agriculture, horticulture, etc., and the commissioner shall promote and encourage, as far as practicable, societies and other associations in the several counties and ascertain the agricultural, horticultural, mechanical, commercial, and educational condition of every county, etc. * * * The commissioner shall put himself in communication with the different agricultural, horticultural, and labor societies, etc.

The sum of \$13,000 is annually appropriated to meet the expenses of the bureau of agriculture. Of this sum the commissioner is authorized to expend such amount for institute work as he deems proper. One thousand two hundred and six dollars and sixteen cents

was appropriated during the past year for institute purposes. Seventeen institutes were held, composed of 73 sessions, and attended by 3,350 persons. The number of lecturers upon the list is 15, of whom 3 are from the agricultural college and the State experiment station. The proceedings are edited by the State director and printed in supplemental form and circulated by the leading agricultural papers of the State. The county papers also inclose these supplements, distributing them among their subscribers. About 10,000 copies of the proceedings of each institute were printed and circulated in this manner during the past year.

The arranging for institutes in the several counties is in the hands of the superintendent, who cooperates with local farm clubs in arranging the dates, places, and programmes, the State furnishing such lecturers in addition to the local teachers as may be necessary. The places and dates as well as speakers are announced as soon as the programmes have been prepared through the State agricultural papers, as well as by means of local publications. The institute director is the commissioner of agriculture, labor, and statistics for the State. Three thousand dollars has been appropriated for the institute work next year.

The State director has employed this year a man at a regular salary, who is known as the State lecturer and organizer of farmers' institutes, and whose duty it is to organize farmers' clubs in the various counties, and make preliminary arrangements for institutes and to deliver lectures throughout the State. It is now planned to organize a farmers' club in a district preliminary to the holding of an institute, as it has been found that more successful meetings can be secured where there is an organization in a community of agricultural people who are interested. After such a club has been organized it is the duty of its secretary to make a report to the commissioner of agriculture, giving the names and post-office addresses of each officer and member thereof, and he is also required to report at least four times a year the number of members admitted at subsequent meetings. Under the rules no club is organized by the bureau of agriculture with less than twenty members.

LOUISIANA.

The farmers' institute work in the State of Louisiana is conducted under a provision of the constitution of 1898, which provides that "the Louisiana State board of agriculture and immigration shall have the control and direction of all State agricultural organizations and State farmers' institutes." In accordance with this provision the State board of agriculture organized a farmers' institute committee, composed of the president of the Louisiana State University, the

director of the State experiment station, and the commissioner of agriculture and immigration. Two thousand dollars is annually appropriated for institute work. The commissioner of agriculture and immigration is the executive officer of the State committee on farmers' institutes, and has direct control of the work of organizing and conducting institutes in the several districts.

There are 33 lecturers on the State institute teaching force, 13 of whom are connected with the State college or experiment station. Last year these college and station men contributed sixty days of their time to institute work. Sixty-seven institutes were held during the year, composed of 208 sessions. The total attendance is given at 14,541. The cost of the institutes was \$2,500. Three thousand five hundred copies of reports of institute proceedings were printed and distributed. Permanent institute clubs, with a president and secretary, and with one vice-president from each ward of the parish, constitute the local organization. The institute director cooperates with the local authorities in arranging the dates, places, and programmes for institute meetings. The State director of institutes is appointed by the governor for a period of four years and is also commissioner of agriculture and immigration.

MAINE.

In Maine, under the act creating the State department of agriculture and providing for the appointment of a commissioner of agriculture, the commissioner is required to "hold or cause to be held two farmers' institutes in each county annually, and as many more as the appropriation therefor will allow." An appropriation of \$3,000 annually is made for carrying on the institute work and for meeting the expenses of the State dairymen's conference, provided such expense shall not exceed the sum of \$500 annually. During the year 44 institutes were held, composed of 93 sessions. The total attendance was 5,731, and the amount expended was \$5,000. There are 21 lecturers upon the State institute force. Abstracts of the proceedings are prepared by the commissioner and included in his annual report, of which 6,000 copies are printed.

The commissioner is appointed by the legislature and holds office for two years. The location of the county meetings is made by the county agents, and the dates and programmes are planned by the State director of institutes. The agricultural college and experiment station officers participate in the lecture work whenever desired and at times that do not conflict with their other duties. During the past year four members of the college faculty lectured before institute audiences, giving twenty-five days of their time to this service. In addition to the regular institute work the director of institutes

furnished speakers to local granges on request where they desired special farm subjects to be discussed. The expense of these speakers was paid from the institute fund.

MARYLAND.

Under the act of assembly, approved March 27, 1896, establishing farmers' institutes in the State of Maryland, it is provided that the farmers' institute director shall be appointed by the trustees of the Maryland Agricultural College, and that at least "one institute shall be held in each year in each county of the State, and an additional one in each county, if deemed necessary and desirable." The institute under this act was made a department of the Maryland Agricultural College. The total number of institutes held during the year was 26, consisting of 73 sessions. Five thousand seven hundred and forty-one persons were in attendance. Sixteen lecturers are upon the State list of institute instructors. Eight members of the agricultural college and experiment station force gave instruction in the institutes. The total cost of the institutes for the year was \$3,618.70, and the appropriation for the coming year is \$6,000.

The work in the several counties is conducted by a local committee or county organization, wherever such exists, or through a local correspondent appointed by the director of institutes. Reports of the institutes are furnished to the county papers, and enough of these are secured by the director to supply his mailing list. The advertising of the meetings is effected through the newspapers of the State by sending to each a programme about four weeks before the institute in the county in which the newspaper is published is held. The director each year plans a visit of representatives of the institutes in the several counties to some place of special interest outside of the State, as a farm, canning factory, city market, or educational institution, each delegate being expected to write a report of what he has observed during his visit and present this before the next institute meeting. The results of this method of verifying information have been very satisfactory.

Two cars specially fitted up for the purpose were used on two of the leading railroads of Maryland and run as seed-corn specials. The attendance in two days at these meetings was 2,107.

MASSACHUSETTS.

The farmers' institutes of Massachusetts are held under a general law establishing a board of agriculture which authorizes it to "disseminate useful information in agriculture by lectures or otherwise." By a rule of the State board the secretary of the board is required to

provide lecturers for farmers' institutes so far as the appropriation for the object will allow. The board recommends that—

Whenever any farmers' organization in the State shall desire to have a course of not more than three lectures on any farm subject they may apply to the secretary of the board of agriculture for a lecturer, and the secretary, if he thinks the subject a proper one, shall furnish a lecturer, provided he can secure a competent person to attend on the dates named, and also provided that he has not already been called on during the year to provide lecturers for more than 13 courses.

Rule 15 requires that—

Each agricultural society receiving the bounty of the Commonwealth shall hold within its limits not less than three farmers' institutes each calendar year, and the board shall render all the assistance in its power to make these institutes interesting and profitable. The secretary of the board shall provide lecturers for farmers' institutes, so far as the appropriation for the object will allow and a wise expenditure of the money warrant, but he shall not be authorized to pay more than one lecturer for each institute. The secretary of each society shall be required to certify to the holding of each institute on blanks furnished by the secretary of the board.

One hundred and fifteen institutes, composed of 167 sessions, were held this year. Twelve thousand three hundred and seventy-two persons were in attendance, and there were 71 persons upon the State force, 47 of whom were engaged in giving instruction during the year. The total cost was \$1,474.24, and the appropriation for the coming year is \$3,000. The local expenses of the institutes are met by the societies holding the meetings. The dates, places, and programmes for the meetings are arranged by the State director in cooperation with the local officers. The agricultural societies represented on the State board of agriculture are the local organizations under whose auspices the institutes are held. The director of institutes, in commenting upon this feature of their work, states that—

For Massachusetts we consider our present arrangement the best one, with the institutes under the local control of the incorporated agricultural societies represented on the board, who are required to hold three institutes each in every calendar year. They, with the advice and assistance of the central office, select the speakers they wish to hear from the list furnished them by the board and select the dates most convenient for their people. The board arranges with the speakers to attend these meetings and also meets their expenses, while the societies meet the expenses for hall rent and advertising and attend to the details of the same. This office maintains a general oversight of the institutes, does not employ any but worthy and instructive speakers, and further endeavors to arrange circuits of institutes with speakers of more than ordinary ability from without the State.

MICHIGAN.

The State board of agriculture is authorized by act of the legislature of 1901 to "hold institutes and to establish and maintain courses of reading and lectures for instruction in the various branches of agriculture, mechanic arts, domestic economy, and the related

sciences." The board is authorized to "formulate such rules and regulations as it shall deem proper to carry on the work contemplated in the act, and may employ such agent or agents to perform such duties in connection therewith as it shall deem best." Local farmers' institute societies are provided for in the act, and such societies are required to hold annually at least one institute of at least two days in length. To organize a local county institute society the rule of the board requires that at least—

Twenty residents of the county, without regard to sex, but of legal age, shall meet and adopt a brief constitution in harmony with the State law, elect a president and a vice-president from each township in the county, and a secretary, who shall also be treasurer. Such society shall furnish to the secretary of the board of agriculture a copy of its constitution and by-laws, and shall transmit with the same a written agreement, signed by the president and secretary of the society, stating that the society will, for purposes of farmers' institutes, conform to the rules of the board of agriculture governing such institute. Within ten days after the close of such institute the secretary shall make a report to the superintendent on blanks to be furnished by the superintendent.

The immediate management of the farmers' institutes is placed in charge of a superintendent elected by the board of agriculture. The superintendent arranges for locating and holding institutes, is authorized to approve all institute societies when properly organized, and, after consultation with members of local institute societies, determines the time and place for holding the institutes and the subjects to be discussed. He also designates the persons who are to attend as lecturers, and has authority to reject from the programme local speakers or topics that are objectionable. He has authority to call upon the faculty and instructors of the agricultural college and members of the experiment station force for such institute work as may be assigned them by the board, with the consent of the president.

During the past year 270 institutes were held, consisting of 827 sessions. Two hundred of these institutes were one-day, and 68 were two-day, and 2 were three-day institutes. The total attendance was 55,004. There were 47 speakers upon the State lecture force, 21 of whom were members of the college faculty or of the experiment station staff, and contributed ninety days' time. The appropriation for the expenses of the lecture force was \$9,300, of which \$1,800 was from membership fees, contributions, etc. Reports containing statistics of attendance, list of officers, etc., and a report of the annual round-up institute, together with such papers as are of special excellence, read at the county institutes, are edited by the State superintendent, and 9,000 copies were published for distribution by the institute societies. A round-up of the institute workers is held annually. The meeting for the past year was attended by 5,755 persons, and continued through 12 sessions, besides 3 conferences and 6 special sessions.

MINNESOTA.

The legislature of Minnesota, by act approved April 14, 1903, repealed all former legislation in regard to farmers' institutes in that State and provided for their future constitution, government, and support in an entirely new act composed of fifteen sections. A board of administration is created by the act, consisting of three members of the board of regents of the University of Minnesota, the president of the State Agricultural Society, the president of the State Dairy Association, and the president of the State Horticultural Society, to have charge of the execution of the act regulating the farmers' institute work throughout the State. This board of administration is authorized to appoint a State superintendent of farmers' institutes, whose term of office continues for two years. The board of administration, in conjunction with the superintendent, arranges the institute circuits and determines the times and places where institutes are to be held. The duties of the superintendent are defined as follows:

To superintend the several institutes when located as herein provided; to engage competent instructors therefor; to receive, examine, and report upon all bills for expenses and services payable from established appropriation, and at the end of each fiscal year to make a detailed report of all farmers' institutes held under his direction, with an itemized account of all expenditures under this act during the year last past, to said board of administration.

The board of administration is directed to prepare and publish each year a farmers' institute annual. Thirty-five thousand copies of this publication were sent out last year. The law requires that—

Each meeting shall continue for not less than one day nor more than three days, with morning, afternoon, and, when practicable, evening sessions. Each shall be free to the public, and each shall consist of practical and instructive lectures upon topics pertaining to the farm and home, and with incidents and addresses, discussions, and illustrations of such methods and practices as possess real merit and are adapted to the conditions of our agriculture, the sole object and purpose of these institutes being to disseminate practical knowledge upon questions pertaining to agriculture, horticulture, stock and dairy farming, with the least expense and inconvenience to the people of the State.

One hundred and five institutes were held during the past year, consisting of 227 sessions. All of the institutes held were one-day. The total attendance was 52,125, and the amount of money appropriated and expended was \$18,000. There were 10 lecturers upon the State teaching force. The college and the experiment station were not represented upon the lecture corps. There are no local county organizations of institutes in the State, the superintendent selecting persons in each locality from year to year to assist him in organizing and conducting the local work. A few women's institutes were held during the year, and the superintendent has also started cooperative field experiments in conjunction with the State experiment station.

MISSISSIPPI.

Farmers' institute work in Mississippi is under the direction of the president of the agricultural and mechanical college. There are no laws organizing institutes in the State excepting that appropriating \$3,000 to the agricultural and mechanical college for institute work. Last year 153 institutes were held, composed of 311 sessions. One hundred and fifty were one-day institutes and 2 were two-day and 1 three-day institute. The total attendance was 30,000. Institutes were held in all excepting the Delta counties. The total cost of the institutes last year was \$3,000, and the appropriation for the coming year is \$3,000. Twenty-four lecturers were upon the State institute force, 22 of whom were contributed by the agricultural college and the experiment station to the lecture service of the institutes. The college and station men gave to institute instruction three hundred and ninety-six days of time. No reports of the institute work were published.

The State director organizes the farmers in the several localities into clubs, and the clubs of each county into a single county club, the county club having charge of the local institute work. He also fixes the dates and places for institutes, committing the preparation of the programmes and the arrangement for speakers to the county institute club. Announcement of dates, places, and speakers is made about one month before an institute meeting is held by publishing the programme in the county papers. The State director is appointed by the board of trustees of the agricultural and mechanical college, and the appropriation made by the State is payable to this board of trustees. A round-up meeting of institute workers was held this year at the college, consisting of 6 sessions, at which 300 farmers were in attendance.

MISSOURI.

The control of farmers' institutes in Missouri is by law placed in the hands of the State board of agriculture, which is required to "hold farmers' institutes in different parts of the State for the purpose of giving instruction in agriculture." The execution of this work is placed in the hands of the secretary of the board.

The universal exposition held in St. Louis during the past year seriously interfered with the work of conducting farmers' institutes in this State. The time of the State director, who is also secretary of the State board of agriculture, was largely taken up with duties connected with the exhibit of the State at the exposition. Notwithstanding this interruption, 104 institutes were held—58 one day, 44 two days, and 2 three days, altogether composed of 256 sessions, with a total attendance of 2,560. The amount of money appropriated for

institute purposes was \$5,000, of which \$3,100 only was used. A technical ruling by the State auditor prevented the use of the balance of the funds, on the ground that the portion not drawn prior to January 1 was required under the act making the appropriation to be refunded to the public treasury.

The total number of lecturers reported upon the State force was 26, and the total number of days of institutes held during the year was one hundred and fifty-two. Ten thousand copies of reports of the proceedings are printed annually and distributed.

There are no permanent local organizations for institute purposes in the several counties, the director arranging each year for institutes by correspondence from the office with a local committee, which he appoints. The director fixes the dates and places and consults with the local committee respecting the programme. Meetings are advertised by publishing from two to four weeks in advance the dates, places, and names of the speakers in the local press. A traveling institute was organized three years ago, and was in successful operation during the past season. A railway car is fitted up with illustrative material and equipped with a lecture force furnished by the college of agriculture and mechanic arts of the university and by the experiment station. Numerous districts were visited in this manner and very satisfactory institutes were held, the lecturers having the advantage of the material with which the car was supplied for use in demonstration. In most places where meetings of this character are held the material used in demonstration is taken from the car to the institute hall. After the meeting has been held the people are invited to pass through the car and view the exhibits. The railroads of the State are cooperating in the movement, and the meetings are growing in interest and attendance.

A new feature in institute work was reported by the State director two years ago, having for its purpose the interesting of the children of the public schools. The method pursued is to have the conductor of an institute in a locality, after having secured the consent of the superintendent of public instruction, to interview the school directors of the district, asking permission to have one or more of his lecturers visit the public schools while they are in session and deliver one or more lectures upon some phase of agricultural life. The result has been that the children have become greatly interested in the farmers' institute, and through them the interest has extended into the homes from which they come.

MONTANA.

The board of administration of farmers' institutes in Montana is composed of the governor of the State, the director of the Montana Experiment Station, and the presidents of the Montana Registered

Cattle Breeders' Association, the Montana Wool Growers' Association, the Montana Live Stock Association, the Montana Horticultural Society, the Montana State Board of Horticulture, the Montana Agricultural Association, and the Montana Dairymen's Association. The officers of the board consist of a president and secretary, elected by the board for two years. The members of this board of administration are designated "directors of Montana farmers' institutes," and are "authorized to hold institutes for the instruction of the citizens of the State in the various branches of agriculture and prescribe such rules and regulations as they may deem best for organizing and conducting the same." At least one institute is required to be held in each county each year. The directors are authorized to designate the times and places for holding the meetings. The rules of the board require that—

The State shall be divided into districts comprising several counties which may be reached by a party of institute workers without unnecessary expense. In one or more districts, which shall be varied each year, a corps of institute workers shall attend and hold a two or three days' session in each county. This deputation shall be accompanied by a stenographer, who shall make a full report of their meetings for the farmers' institute annual. The board shall endeavor to encourage by all means in its power the formation of local farmers' institutes, organizations, or farmers' clubs in the various counties or communities of the State. It shall lend such aid as is in its power toward maintaining these organizations and toward helping to make their work efficient and helpful to the communities in which they are organized. It shall also, as far as possible, recognize and use those local organizations in arranging for institute meetings in any locality.

It is further directed that—

The secretary shall be superintendent of farmers' institutes and shall have immediate charge of and make all arrangements for the farmers' institute work over the State. Such plans and arrangements he shall submit for the approval of the board.

The local county organizations are required to provide suitable halls, and must furnish them with light and heat and bear all necessary advertising expenses.

Four thousand dollars was appropriated for the purpose of conducting institutes this year. Under the new act of March 6, 1903, each institute held under the authority of the board is entitled to a sum not exceeding \$50 from the amount appropriated. An institute annual is authorized to be published, at a cost not to exceed \$1,500 in any one year. Five thousand copies of the proceedings of the institutes of the past year were published and distributed. Forty-seven institutes were held during the year, composed of 100 sessions. Six thousand nine hundred and forty-six persons were in attendance, and 18 lecturers were upon the State force, 10 of whom were supplied by the agricultural college and experiment station. The director of

institutes is also acting director of the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station and professor of agronomy, animal husbandry, and dairying in the Montana State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts.

NEBRASKA.

Farmers' institutes in Nebraska are held under the general direction of the industrial college of the University of Nebraska and the agricultural experiment station. The university employs a superintendent of farmers' institutes, who is also the director of the experiment station. There is also employed an assistant superintendent of institutes, who has charge of the field work. One hundred and fifty institutes were held last year, consisting of 480 sessions. Eighty-eight institutes were one-day, 56 were two-day, and 6 were three-day. The total attendance was 67,241. Institutes were held in 68 counties. Twenty-nine lecturers were upon the institute teaching force. Eighteen of these were members of the agricultural college and experiment station staffs. Six thousand dollars was appropriated for meeting the expenses of the work. No report of the proceedings is published. The dates, places, and programmes for the institutes are arranged by the State director. The local county organizations consist of a president, secretary, and an executive committee, who are intrusted with the duties of securing meeting rooms and providing for the payment of the local expenses of the institute. The State lecturers are appointed by authority of the regents of the university, and are assigned to the several localities by the superintendent of institutes. Institutes are advertised through the local papers, by the means of posters, and by the distribution of programmes through the mail. A train with cars fitted up for the purpose, called "the seed-corn special," was equipped with materials and a lecture force by the institute director, and through the courtesy of the railroad companies was taken over the principal railroads of the State. Forty-one thousand eight hundred and eighty-six persons by this means were reached. The annual round-up of the agricultural organizations of the State was held at the university January 16 to 21, 1905. Thirty-one sessions were held, with a total attendance of 2,000.

NEVADA.

There is no law in this State providing for the organization or conduct of institutes. The work has hitherto been in charge of the State University and the agricultural experiment station, the director of institutes being president of the university and also director of the experiment station. Last year there were held 10 institutes, composed of 20 sessions, with an attendance of 665. The entire expense was \$379. The State lecture force consists of 6 lecturers, 5 of whom

are members of the agricultural college faculty and experiment station staff. The local organization consists of a local executive committee, with a permanent chairman and secretary.

The arranging of dates, places, and programmes is by the staff of the experiment station, after consultation with members of the local committee. The railroad companies furnish free transportation for all workers within State limits and grant reduced rates to all who attend the institutes. The proceedings of the institute work are published in the annual report of the experiment station. Seven hundred and fifty copies were printed and distributed during the past year.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The public statutes of New Hampshire require the secretary of the board of agriculture "to make arrangements for, give public notice of, and, if possible, personally attend the farmers' meetings authorized by the board." Under this general authority farmers' institutes have been organized and conducted. Last season 13 institutes were held, composed of 28 sessions. Twenty-nine hundred people were in attendance, and 14 lecturers were upon the State corps of instructors, 7 of whom were members of the agricultural college faculty, and the experiment station staff, contributing fourteen days of time. The total expense was \$1,500, all of which was appropriated by the State board of agriculture from the general funds received from the State for this purpose. Local arrangements for holding institutes are made by the secretary of the board with grange organizations, farm clubs, and agricultural and horticultural societies. Two thousand copies of reports of proceedings were published and distributed.

NEW JERSEY.

The farmers' institutes in New Jersey are organized and conducted under general authority granted to the State board of agriculture by the legislature. Under the act the board is authorized to "employ suitable persons to lecture before the State board of agriculture at its annual or other meetings and in the counties of the State." The executive committee of the board has delegated the management and conduct of the institutes to its secretary. Thirty institutes were held during the past year, composed of 111 sessions. Twenty-three were one-day and 7 were two-day. The total attendance was 5,538. Ten lecturers are upon the State corps of teachers, 5 of whom were members of the faculty of the agricultural college and the staff of the experiment station, who contributed forty days of time to institute service. One thousand eight hundred and thirty-eight dollars was expended for meeting the expenses of institutes, and \$3,500 has been appropriated for the coming year. No report of the institute pro-

ceedings is published except that an occasional summary of the work is printed in the annual report of the State board of agriculture. There are no specific local organizations for institute work in the State. The director invites the members of county boards, granges, and farm clubs to aid him in the work of arranging for the county meetings. In most cases the dates, places, and programmes are prepared by the State director. The local communities are expected to provide proper meeting rooms and to pay all expenses for heat and light. The director attends most of the institutes, and in many instances takes part as a lecturer. An annual round-up meeting, consisting of seven sessions and attended by about 300 persons, was held in connection with the meeting of the State board of agriculture.

NEW MEXICO.

The farmers' institute work in New Mexico is under the direction of the agricultural college and experiment station. There is no specific legislation providing for the organization or control of the institute work. The expenses are met by appropriations made by the board of regents of the College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts and of the experiment station. One institute was held at the agricultural and mechanical college, consisting of three sessions. The meeting was conducted by the professors of the college and was attended by a considerable number of farmers in the immediate locality. No report of the proceedings is published. There is no regular farmers' institute organization in the State. The cost of the institute was nominal.

The citizens in the localities where institutes are held pay all the expenses of the meeting except those incurred by the State lecturers. The advertising of the institutes is committed to the localities in which the meetings are to be held. Wherever there is an agricultural organization in a locality the institute work is conducted through this organization. If no organization exists, then a committee of citizens is appointed to arrange for the meeting. To this organization or committee is committed the preparation of the programme, the selection of local speakers, the fixing of the dates, and the securing of places of meeting.

NEW YORK.

The director of institutes in New York is appointed by the commissioner of agriculture under the authority of an act of the legislature creating the department of agriculture. The law provides for the appointment of the director of institutes and for the appropriation of funds to conduct them, leaving the manner of organization and management entirely in the hands of the State institute director.

Last year 261 institutes were held, made up of 967 sessions. One hundred and twenty-nine of these were one-day, 128 were two-day, and 4 were three-day institutes. The total attendance was 87,439. Sixty lecturers were upon the State corps of instructors, 20 of whom were furnished by the faculty of the agricultural college and the staff of the experiment station, who contributed one hundred and ninety-five days of their time. Twenty thousand dollars was appropriated for carrying on the work, all of which was expended. As many as five separate corps of speakers are in the field at the same time. An annual meeting of the lecturers upon the State force has been held for the purpose of normal instruction. During the past year a course continuing for two weeks was provided, one week at the State experiment station at Geneva and one week at Cornell University. The corps of lecturers was well represented at both of the meetings, and much interest was manifested in the lectures and discussions. The State speakers in New York are all listed under the civil service, and the director reports that there has thus far been no serious trouble from the rulings of their civil-service commission. A special effort has been made to develop institute lecturers from among their own citizens, and the large number of efficient instructors now upon the State force is evidence of the success of the director in this respect.

An annual report of institutes, numbering 25,000 copies, was printed and distributed by the State director and by members of the legislature. The local or county organization varies. Usually a local committee is selected by the State director to have charge of the arrangements for holding the county meetings. The dates, places, and programmes are arranged by the director. Each locality is required to provide a hall free of expense. The State pays the expenses for advertising and for the lighting and heating of the hall. The director frequently furnishes speakers for independent institutes that are held under the auspices of granges, farm clubs, or agricultural societies. The attendance at these independent institutes last year is reported as 31,000. The director reports having held during the season 92 institute sessions specially for farmers' boys and girls, with pronounced success. The special topics presented for discussion before all of the institutes were "Good roads" and "Rural schools."

NORTH CAROLINA.

By act of assembly it is made the duty of the commissioner of agriculture of North Carolina, by and with the consent and advice of the board of agriculture, "to hold farmers' institutes in the several counties of the State as frequently as may be deemed advisable in order to instruct the people in improved methods in farming, in the beneficial use of fertilizers and composts, and to ascertain the wants and neces-

sities of the various farming communities; and may collect the papers and addresses made at these institutes and publish the same in pamphlet form annually for distribution among the farmers of the State. He may secure such assistants as may be necessary or beneficial in holding such institutes."

Sixty-one institutes were held last year, composed of 226 sessions, and the total attendance was 11,168. Fifty-eight were one-day and three were two-day institutes. Eighteen instructors were upon the State lecture force, six of whom were members of the agricultural college faculties and the experiment station staffs. The total expense for the year was \$1,971, which sum was contributed by the State board of agriculture from revenues derived from the tax on commercial fertilizers in the State. The director of institutes is also commissioner of agriculture and is elected by the people for a term of four years. One thousand seven hundred dollars has been appropriated by the board for institute purposes for the coming season. Twenty-five thousand copies of an annual report of the proceedings of the institutes are printed and distributed to the regular mailing list of the department of agriculture. The local organization for the counties consists of a chairman, secretary, and committee on programmes. The director holds institutes upon request of the various localities. The local expenses are provided for by the community in which the institute is held. Announcement of the dates, places, and speakers is made by publication in the newspapers and through the distribution of posters. A round-up institute or State farmers' convention was held at the agricultural college, continuing during nine sessions, and was attended by about 500 persons.

NORTH DAKOTA.

The farmers' institute board is provided for by an act of assembly approved March 19, 1903. The board is composed of the president of the board of trustees of the North Dakota Agricultural College, the commissioner of agriculture and labor, the director of the experiment station, the professor of agriculture, and the professor of dairying of the North Dakota Agricultural College. It is made the duty of the board to—

employ a director of farmers' institutes and such other institute lecturers as may be deemed necessary; to authorize the holding of not less than 40 institutes each year, the same to be of such a nature as to instruct the farmers of the State in maintaining the fertility of the soil, the improvement of cereal crops grown in the State, principles of breeding as applied to domestic animals, the making and handling of dairy products, the destruction of noxious weeds and injurious insects, forestry and growing of fruits, feeding and management of live stock, and in general such instruction as will tend to promote the prosperity, home life, and comfort of the farming population.

This act, as amended March 15, 1905, appropriates \$6,000 annually for carrying on the institute work. Sixty-one institutes were held last year, consisting of 140 sessions. Forty-seven were one-day institutes, and 13 were two-day, and 1 three-day. The attendance was 12,838. The number of speakers upon the State force was 8. Five of these were members of the State agricultural experiment station staff and contributed twenty-two days of time. The total cost of the institutes was \$3,948. The appropriation for the year ending June 30, 1906, is \$6,000. The institute proceedings are published in an annual, of which 10,000 copies are distributed at institute meetings and through the mail. The State lecturers are appointed by the institute board. This board also appoints the State director, whose term of office is for one year. An institute committee in each county is selected by the State institute board to look after the advertising and make such special arrangements as are necessary for the successful conduct of the meetings. The dates, places, and programmes are all arranged by the State director, and notices of meetings are advertised by means of large posters, through the publication of the programmes by local newspapers, and by postal card invitations sent out through the mail.

A round-up meeting was held at Fargo, January 17 to 20, 1905, consisting of ten sessions with an attendance of 1,310 persons. The director of institutes arranged with the Minneapolis, St. Paul and Sault Ste. Marie Railway Company to operate a special seed train March 6 to 11, inclusive. The institute board arranged for the speakers and paid all other expenses, as well as arranging for the advertising. This train covered the main line from Hankinson to Portal, and the Bismarck branch from Hankinson to Wishek, a total of 480 miles, making twenty-seven stops of 1 hour and 30 minutes each during this time. The train consisted of a large passenger coach, which was used to convey farmers to and from the stations between the regular stops and also in which to hold the meeting when the attendance would permit. The attendance ranged from 75 to over 500, making a total of 5,555 for the five days. Professors H. L. Bolley, J. H. Shepperd, Director of the Experiment Station J. H. Worst, and the superintendent of institutes composed the lecture corps. The principal subjects treated were "Grading and selecting seed grain," "Seed treatment to prevent disease in field crops," and the "Germination of seed grain." At the close of each meeting five circulars, giving a résumé of the subjects discussed, were distributed. The total expense to the institute fund was \$225.

OHIO.

The farmers' institute work in Ohio is organized under the provisions of an act of assembly passed April 26, 1890, and amended April 27, 1896. Under this act whenever "twenty or more persons resident of any county in the State organize themselves into a farmers' institute society, adopt a constitution and by-laws agreeable to rules and regulations furnished by the State board of agriculture, and when such society shall have elected proper officers and performed such other acts as may be required by the rules of the State board of agriculture, such society shall be deemed a body corporate." Not more than four farmers' institute societies in any county are permitted to hold annual meetings under the auspices of the State board of agriculture. The secretary of the State board of agriculture has charge of the farmers' institute work under the general direction of the board.

Section 3 of the act provides for the maintenance of farmers' institutes through the levy of a direct tax. Ohio is the only State that has adopted this method of institute support. The section is as follows:

When a society organized under the provisions of this act shall have held an annual farmers' institute meeting in accordance with the rules of the State board of agriculture, the secretary of said board shall issue certificates, one to the president of the farmers' institute society and one to the president of the State board of agriculture, setting forth these facts, and on the presentation of these certificates to the county auditor he shall each year draw orders on the treasurer of the county as follows: Based on the last previous national census, a sum equal to 3 mills for each inhabitant of the county in favor of the president of the State board of agriculture and a sum equal to 3 mills for each inhabitant of the county in favor of the president of the farmers' institute society, where but one society is organized; but in counties where there are more than one farmers' institute society organized under the provisions of this act and holding meetings under the auspices and by the direction of the State board of agriculture, the said 3 mills for each inhabitant shall be equally apportioned among such societies, and warrants in the proper amounts issued to the respective presidents, and the treasurer of the county shall pay the same from the county fund: *Provided*, That in no county shall the total annual sum exceed two hundred and fifty dollars: *And provided further*, That the payment to any institute society shall not exceed the expense, as per detailed statement, provided in section four of this act.

The act, it will be seen, provides permanent county institute organization and secures to each a substantial fund for support. The State board of agriculture, under rules which it is authorized to prescribe, gives specific instructions for the formation of local societies and directs how reports shall be made out, and directs the details to be observed in conducting their institute meetings. The State lecturers are required to devote their time and efforts to the discussion of such subjects as are designated by the institute law, namely, "farming, stock raising, fruit culture, and all branches of business connected with the industry of agriculture."

Two hundred and eighty-nine institutes were held last year, consisting of 1,399 sessions. All of these were two-day institutes, excepting 2, which were one-day. The total attendance was 92,593. The teaching force consisted of 29 members, and the total expense incurred was \$19,598. Twenty thousand copies of reports of the proceedings were printed and distributed. All of the local expenses are met by the counties from their portion of the per capita tax. The dates and places for institutes are arranged by the State director, and the programmes are submitted to him by local societies for approval. The dates, places, and speakers are announced about forty days in advance of December 1, which is the beginning of the institute season. The institutes are advertised locally by the county societies. A number of independent institutes were held during the year by local organizations. The average attendance at each of these is given at 318. A round-up meeting was held last year consisting of four sessions. About 500 farmers were in attendance.

OKLAHOMA.

A State board of agriculture, consisting of 6 elective members and the governor, who is a member ex officio, has been created by a recent act of the Territorial legislature. The 6 members of this board are elected by delegates from county institutes, which organizations are provided for in the act creating the State board of agriculture. Whenever not less than 15 farmers, residents in any one county, shall apply to the secretary of the Territory, he is required to issue a charter of incorporation, and the organization shall thereafter be known as the county farmers' institute for such county. These county institutes are required to hold an annual meeting at the county seat, at which matters pertaining to agriculture shall be discussed and one delegate be elected to attend the annual meeting of the State board of agriculture. These delegates at their annual meeting elect two members of the State board of agriculture whose terms are for three years, and the law provides that this board so elected "shall have supervision of the county farmers' institute system." The board elects its secretary and assigns his duties, one of which is the management of the farmers' institutes. The act directs that "it shall also be the duty of the secretary of the board to cooperate with the faculty of the agricultural and mechanical college and the staff of the agricultural experiment station in the preparation of programmes for institute meetings and to attend the annual meeting of each county farmers' institute." The expenses of the delegates from the county institutes to the annual meeting of the board of agriculture are paid by the Territorial treasurer upon warrants drawn by the Territorial auditor, the compensation to be at the rate of \$2 per day for not more than

three days and 3 cents per mile for each mile necessarily traveled in going to and returning from such meeting.

Last year 58 institutes were held; 39 were one-day and 19 were two-day. The total number of sessions was 156 and the attendance was 5,500. There was 8 lecturers upon the State institute force, 5 of whom were members of the State agricultural college and experiment station staffs, who contributed sixty-five days of time. The dates of the institutes are fixed by the county organizations at their annual meetings, and they also assist the State director in preparing programmes. No report of the institute proceedings is published. An annual round-up meeting was held, continuing through 7 sessions, with an average attendance of 150.

OREGON.

The legislative assembly of the State of Oregon at its session of 1905 enacted the following legislation respecting the farmers' institutes:

The board of regents of the State agricultural college is hereby authorized to hold institutes for the instruction of citizens of this State in the various branches of agriculture. Such institutes shall be held at such times and at such places as said board may direct, and said board shall make such rules and regulations as it may deem proper for organizing and conducting such institutes, and shall employ an agent or agents to perform such work in connection therewith as they may deem best. The course of instruction at such institutes shall be so arranged as to present to those in attendance results of the most recent investigations in theoretical and practical agriculture.

For the purpose mentioned in the preceding section the State board may issue such sum as it may deem proper not exceeding the sum of \$2,500 in any one year from the general fund, and such amount is hereby annually appropriated for that purpose.

Last year 18 institutes were held; 12 were one-day and 6 were two-day. The total number of sessions was 54 and the attendance 5,500. The State lecture force is composed of agricultural college and experiment station men. During the year four of these officials were in the institute lecture service and contributed fifty-four days of time. The expenses of the farmers' institutes were paid from the station funds, amounting to \$350. There is no regular form of organization for the different counties. The director arranges the dates and places after consultation with individuals in the localities desiring institutes. Eight special meetings of farmers were held during the year with an aggregate attendance of 3,000.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Under the Pennsylvania law the deputy secretary of agriculture, who is appointed by the governor for a term of four years, is also director of farmers' institutes. He is required to "arrange them in

such manner as to time and places of holding the same as to secure the greatest economy and efficiency of service, and to this end he shall, in each county where such institutes are to be held, confer and advise with the local member of the State board of agriculture, together with representatives duly appointed by each county agricultural, horticultural, and other like organizations, with reference to the appointment of speakers and other local arrangements." The institutes are supported by biennial appropriations by the legislature to the department of agriculture. The number of institutes held last year was 196. Forty-four were one-day institutes, 150 were two day, and 2 were three day. The total number of sessions was 862, and the attendance was 150,932, not including special meetings. The amount appropriated for institute purposes last year was \$17,500. This does not include the salary of the director, \$3,000, and that of stenographer, \$900. There were 56 lecturers upon the State force, 2 of whom were furnished by the State agricultural experiment station, who contributed sixty-two days of time.

Partial reports of institute proceedings are published in the annual report of the department. Thirty-one thousand six hundred copies of this report are published and distributed annually. The local organization consists of a county chairman, who is usually a member of the State board of agriculture, elected by the county agricultural society, and one representative from each of the other county agricultural organizations. All of the expenses of the institute work, including the local expenses in the several counties, are paid out of the State appropriation. The State director fixes the dates and the county committees select the places and prepare the programmes. A number of independent institutes were held during the year by farmers' clubs, granges, and county agricultural societies, with an aggregate attendance of about 30,000 persons. The State is divided into five sections for institute purposes, and the institute director furnished at least three lecturers for each section.

A round-up meeting of the institute lecturers was held, consisting of eight sessions. The number in attendance was 200. A feature of the work in this State has been the prescribing of one or two important topics and requiring them to be placed upon the local programmes for discussion throughout the State. "Improvement of country schools through centralization" and "Soil improvement" were the two leading topics presented during the past season. The topics selected for the coming year are "Lessons in dairying by actual practice in butter making and handling the dairy." The discovering and training of institute lecturers so as to increase the number of efficient instructors in institute work is made an important fea-

ture by the State director. Two hundred sessions of women's institutes were held during the year. The list of dates, places, and speakers is advertised four months in advance of the institute season.

PORTO RICO.

During the past year an agricultural society composed of Americans and Porto Ricans has been organized, with Mr. H. C. Henricksen, horticulturist of the agricultural experiment station, as secretary. Institutes under the auspices of this association will be held during the coming year, and it is expected that there will be, in connection with the institutes, an agricultural fair, lasting several days, held at Mayaguez.

RHODE ISLAND.

Farmers' institutes in Rhode Island are conducted under authority granted by the general assembly in an act passed May 19, 1892, section 4 of which is as follows:

The board of agriculture shall hold one agricultural institute in each county annually, either independently or in connection with any society or association or other organization devoted to the same general objects, and may hold as many more as it shall deem expedient, and shall, as far as practicable, encourage State and local associations and societies in the interest of agriculture.

The secretary of the State board of agriculture is charged with the duty of arranging for and holding institutes, the expenses of which are paid by the board out of the \$15,000 annually appropriated for the purpose of carrying out the several provisions of the act by which the board is constituted.

One institute, continuing through two days, and composed of six sessions, was held during the past year, with a total attendance of about 400. The cost of this meeting is reported at about \$100, which does not include the salary and expenses of the State director. Two speakers were furnished by the State agricultural college and by the State experiment station. The dates, places, and programmes are arranged by the director.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

In 1887 the legislature of South Carolina made it obligatory upon the board of agriculture to hold farmers' institutes. A few were held under the provisions of that act. Several years later Clemson Agricultural College was established, and the duties of the board of agriculture, so far as related to the holding of farmers' institutes, were devolved upon the board of trustees of Clemson Agricultural College.

In the revised statutes of South Carolina for 1893, section 1132, paragraph 10, the law reads:

They [the board of trustees of Clemson Agricultural College] shall have power to hold agricultural conventions composed of delegates from each county of the State. * * * ; and to conduct farmers' institutes at such times and places as may appear expedient, and they are authorized to use such parts of funds under their control as may be necessary to meet the expenses of conducting such institutes.

Institutes, therefore, are held under authority granted to the board of trustees of Clemson Agricultural College. A committee of this board makes out the programme for the year and appoints an officer to take charge of the work of conducting the meetings. The rule adopted by the board is to require that an invitation shall be received from not less than fifteen farmers in a locality before an institute will be granted, and it is also required that those desiring institutes must have their petitions in the hands of the president on or before June 10. These petitions must designate a suitable place for holding the institute, and the locality will be expected to provide either a suitable building or seats in some grove for the comfortable accommodation of those who attend the institute. The director appoints the dates at which the institutes will be held, giving due notice to the petitioners in each locality; thereupon they are expected to advertise the meeting throughout the territory which the institute is to reach. The appropriation for expenses is made by the trustees of the agricultural college from the college and station funds.

During the past year 33 one-day institutes were held, made up of 56 sessions. The total attendance was 7,460. Twelve lecturers were upon the State institute force, all members of the agricultural college faculties and the experiment station staffs. These lecturers contributed ninety-four days of time. The expenses of the institutes amounted to \$1,194. A round-up institute, consisting of eight sessions, was held at the agricultural college, having a total attendance of 700 persons.

SOUTH DAKOTA.

The legislature of South Dakota by act approved March 3, 1905, creates a State farmers' institute board to be composed of the president of the agricultural college, and the two members of the State board of regents who are at the time acting on the committee for the agricultural college. The term of office as members of such institute board terminates with the expiration of their term of office. The board has authority to hold institutes of not to exceed three days each, at such times and places within the State as in their judgment the needs of the people demand. They are to be free to the public and shall consist of "practical and instructive lectures, addresses, dis-

cussions, illustrations, and demonstrations upon the subject of agriculture in all of its branches, and such other matters as are of interest to the farming people of the State." The necessary and actual expenses incurred in arranging for and conducting the institutes shall be paid out of the appropriation by the State, "provided that there shall be no expenditure for hall rent, fuel, lights, local advertising, or local speakers in connection with the holding of such institute, except when deemed necessary by the institute." The board has authority to engage such instructors as are needed for the institutes, each of whom shall be a specialist on the subject he is to present, and to allow them a reasonable compensation for their services, together with their necessary and actual expenses while employed. The board has authority to do such advertising and publish such matters for free distribution as they may deem advisable for the best interest of the farmers of the State. For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of the act "there is hereby appropriated out of any money in the State treasury not otherwise appropriated the sum of \$5,000 annually." No institutes were held during the past year, but the institute board has been organized, and Mr. M. F. Greeley, of Gary, appointed superintendent of institutes, and empowered to secure such assistance as he deems necessary in order to prosecute the work. The board has decided to hold an institute in every county in the State during the coming year.

TENNESSEE.

An appropriation was made by the legislature to the department of agriculture to be used by the commissioner for institute purposes. The commissioner of agriculture selects the lecturers, arranges the programmes, and decides the times and places for holding institute meetings. The State is divided into three distinct geographical sections—eastern, middle, and western Tennessee.

The director reports that only a few institutes were held during the year which ended June 30, 1905, and that these were held by the county organizations. As a consequence he was unable to furnish the statistical data requested. The work is being systematized and it is hoped that during the coming year there will be held a large number of institutes distributed throughout the three geographical sections of the State in proportion to their several requirements.

TEXAS.

The legislature of Texas in 1903 made an appropriation of \$5,400 to the agricultural and mechanical college for farmers' institute purposes for two years, 1904 and 1905. The control of the farmers' institute work in Texas is in the hands of the board of directors of

the agricultural and mechanical college. A member of the college faculty was appointed by the board of trustees two years ago to take charge of organizing and conducting institutes. The director and the president of the college arrange the dates, places, and programmes for institute meetings. All of the local expenses are met by the citizens of the community in which the institute is held, including very frequently the entertainment of the State lecturers. One hundred and ten institutes were held during the year. One hundred and four of these were one-day and 6 were two-day institutes. The total number of sessions was 146 and the attendance 8,500. There were 24 lecturers on the State force. The cost of the institutes for the year was \$3,450. County organizations are found under a constitution and by-laws suggested by the State director. By the terms of this constitution the local societies agree to meet once each month for the discussion of agricultural questions. The special topics discussed during the past season were "Diversification," "Cotton and cotton insect pests" and "Swine and sheep growing." As a new feature in their institute work the director of institutes reports that they have adopted the rule of discussing a topic quite fully before taking up a new subject. A round-up institute was held at the college, extending through six sessions, attended by about 2,000 persons. No report of the institute proceedings is published.

UTAH.

Farmers' institutes in Utah are by law under the direction of the trustees of the agricultural college, who, "with the advice of the faculty of said college, are hereby authorized and required to hold institutes for the instruction of the citizens of this State in the various branches of agriculture." There must be held at least one institute in each county during each year, at such times and at such places as the trustees and faculty of the agricultural college may direct. They are authorized to make such rules and regulations as they deem proper for organizing and conducting institutes, and may employ an agent or agents to perform such work in connection with the faculty of the college. The sum of \$1,500 is annually appropriated, to be expended by the board of trustees for institute purposes. Under the provisions of this act it is made the duty of those conducting the institutes to encourage and assist in the organization of local agricultural societies. A course of instruction must be so arranged as to "present to those in attendance the results of the most recent investigations in theoretical and practical agriculture." Fifteen institutes were held during the year, consisting of 40 sessions. All were two-day institutes, excepting three, which were one day. The total attendance was 8,000, and the entire cost \$1,500, not including the salary of the State director. Fifteen lecturers were upon the State institute force, all

of whom were members of the college faculty or of the experiment station staff. Seven thousand copies of the reports of proceedings are printed and distributed. A committee of the faculty, under the direction of the president, arranges for all institute work. The dates, places, and programmes are fixed by this committee. All the local expenses incurred in holding meetings are paid out of the State appropriation.

VERMONT.

The farmers' institute work of Vermont is under the control of the State board of agriculture. This board is composed of the governor, the president of the University of Vermont and State agricultural college, and three other persons appointed by the governor. They hold office for two years. The board is required to "hold one meeting in each county annually, and others if deemed expedient, and may employ lecturers, essayists, or other aid in conducting said meetings, managing its affairs generally, and discharging its duties. At such meetings it shall present subjects for discussion, and, among other topics, forestry, tree planting, roads and road making."

Forty institutes were held during the year, consisting of 80 sessions. Seven thousand five hundred persons were in attendance. Twenty-six State lecturers were engaged in giving instruction. The appropriation for institutes was \$5,000, of which \$2,083.75 was expended. The board publishes annually 3,000 copies of its reports, which includes the proceedings of the farmers' institutes.

The dates, places, and programmes for institutes are arranged by the State director, who is also secretary of the State board of agriculture. The free use of hall is required to be provided by the community, the State board defraying the other local expenses. Three members of the faculty of the agricultural college assisted in giving instructions.

VIRGINIA.

Under an act of the legislature of 1893 the board of agriculture of the State of Virginia is required to hold "farmers' institutes at such times and at such places throughout the State as it may deem necessary for the advancement of agricultural knowledge and the improvement of agricultural methods and practices and publish and distribute such papers and addresses read or made at these institutes as promise to be of value to the farming interests."

The duty of arranging for and conducting farmers' institutes is placed in the hands of the member of the board in each Congressional district. Thirty-five one-day institutes were held, made up of 70 sessions. Institutes were held in 28 counties. The total attendance was 8,000. There were 9 lecturers upon the State institute force, all

of whom were members of the agricultural college faculties and experiment station staffs. The amount of money expended was \$5,000. The appropriation for the coming year is \$5,500. A State round-up institute was held in Roanoke, continuing through 6 sessions, with an average attendance of 150.

WASHINGTON.

The law of the State of Washington, in defining the purpose of the Washington Agricultural College and School of Science, declares that "one of the objects of the State college shall be to hold farmers' institutes at such times and places and under such regulations as the board of regents may determine." An act of the legislature of 1903 requires "that at least one institute shall be held in each county of the State in each year." Forty-six institutes were held last year. Seventeen were one-day, 26 were two-day, and 3 were three-day. The total number of sessions was 150, and the attendance is given at 7,282. The amount appropriated for institute purposes by the State was \$2,500. Fifteen speakers are upon the State institute force, 9 of whom are from the faculty of the agricultural college and the staff of the experiment station. They contributed one hundred and fifty-six days. The president of the college is the superintendent of farmers' institutes, but the dean of agriculture is the field agent and has direct control of the execution of the work. No regular report of the institute proceedings is published, but an institute bulletin is annually prepared and distributed for information. County institute organizations have been established throughout the State, which are intrusted with the duty of making local arrangements for institute meetings.

WEST VIRGINIA.

The law of West Virginia places the control of the farmers' institutes in the hands of the State board of agriculture. Under this act the board is required to "promote and encourage as far as practicable the holding of farmers' institutes, the organization of agricultural and horticultural societies and other associations in the interest of agriculture in the several counties of the State." It is directed to "hold farmers' institutes for the instruction of the farmers of the State in the various branches of agriculture. Such institutes shall be held at such times and places in each year as the said board may direct. The said board shall make such orders and regulations as it may deem proper for organizing and conducting such institutes, and may employ an agent or agents to perform such work in connection therewith as they may deem best." The course of instruction in the institutes shall be so "arranged as to present to those in attendance

the results of the most recent investigations in theoretical and practical farming."

Sixty-three institutes were held last year. Sixteen were one-day and 46 two-day and 1 three-day, together comprising 199 sessions. Nine thousand nine hundred and fifty persons were in attendance. Twenty-two lecturers were upon the State force, 5 of whom were members of the agricultural college faculty and experiment station staff, who contributed twenty-three days of their time. The amount expended for meeting the expenses of the institutes for the year was \$2,455.

There is no law regulating the formation of local institute associations, but the board of agriculture has had prepared a form of constitution and set of by-laws, which were printed in the institute bulletin, with the recommendation that they be adopted by local societies in the several counties. The director of institutes is appointed by the State board of agriculture for a period of two years. The board arranges the dates of the institutes and assigns two of its members to be present at each. The reports of the proceedings of the institutes are required to be sent in to the secretary of the board and are printed in an agricultural periodical issued under the direction of the State board of agriculture.

WISCONSIN.

The board of regents of the State university is authorized by the law of Wisconsin to "hold institutes for the instruction of citizens of the State in the various branches of agriculture. Such institutes shall be held at such times and at such places as said board may direct. The said board shall make such rules and regulations as it may deem proper for organizing and conducting such institutes, and may employ an agent or agents to perform such work in connection therewith as they may deem best."

Eighty-two institutes were held during the year. Eighty-one of these were two-day and one was a three-day, aggregating 270 sessions. The total attendance was 43,000. Thirty-one lecturers were upon the State teaching force, eight of whom were members of the agricultural college faculty and the experiment station staff. The amount expended for institute expenses was \$14,942. Sixty thousand copies of the farmers' institute bulletin, containing the proceedings of the institutes, were published and distributed. The local expenses of the institutes are provided for by the citizens of the community in which the institute is held. The meetings are placed upon request of the various localities. Petitions are sent in to the director of institutes, and through these meetings are granted in the discretion of the State director. The arranging of the dates, places, and programmes is in

the hands of the institute director, and announcements of the times, places, and speakers are made about one month in advance of the institute season. Special topics for discussion last year were economical feeding, dairy cows, care of milk, tillage, corn, clover, and fertility. The institute director is elected by the board of regents of the university, nominated by the president of the university and dean of the agricultural college, and recommended by the farm committee. He takes a place regularly on the programme as a lecturer, and is in the field during the entire season in which institutes are held. The annual farmers' institute bulletin is a 320-page handbook of practical agriculture. A round-up institute was held extending over 11 sessions, with an attendance of 2,000. The papers and discussions at this meeting are edited and published, and make up the material used in the preparation of the annual bulletin or handbook. A number of independent institutes were held, with an estimated attendance of 5,000 persons.

WYOMING.

The legislature of Wyoming at its session in 1904 inserted the following item as section 47 of the general appropriation bill:

The sum of \$2,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated for the purpose of holding farmers' institutes and short courses in stock judging, agronomy, and general farming, such meetings to be arranged at such places and at such times as will accommodate the people of the community in which the meetings may be desired. Such farmers' institutes or short courses shall be in charge of the agricultural department of the university, which shall arrange the necessary details of the meetings. In distributing the funds provided for this purpose, the board of trustees of the university shall have authority to provide instructors, lecturers, equipment, and to provide for any other necessary expenses incident to these meetings.

The first community to avail itself of this act was Cody, Bighorn County, where Director Buffum conducted a three-day institute March 29, 30, and 31, 1905. This was the first State institute held in Wyoming. Seven sessions were held, with a total attendance of 75 persons. The work is being organized under the new law, and as many institutes will be held during the coming year as possible with the appropriation granted.

STATISTICS OF FARMERS' INSTITUTES, 1905.

Number of institutes held and the approximate attendance during the year ended June 30, 1905.

State or Territory.	Number of one-day institutes.	Number of two-day institutes.	Number of three or more day institutes.	Total.	Total number of sessions.	Total attendance.
Alabama.....	23	1	.....	24	48	3,820
Alaska ^a.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Arizona.....	.....	.....	1	1	12	250
Arkansas.....	30	.....	.....	30	60	7,650
California.....	37	70	3	110	429	43,494
Colorado.....	16	4	.....	20	52	2,700
Connecticut.....	14	.....	.....	14	28	1,200
Delaware.....	20	.....	.....	20	23	4,199
Florida ^a.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Georgia.....	34	10	.....	44	108	18,000
Hawaii.....	4	.....	.....	4	8	350
Idaho.....	5	19	1	25	113	4,000
Illinois.....	.....	50	50	100	635	69,759
Indiana.....	133	117	.....	250	883	79,964
Indian Territory ^a.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Iowa.....	5	23	32	60	207	^b 18,000
Kansas.....	26	20	9	55	144	11,455
Kentucky.....	.....	16	1	17	73	3,350
Louisiana.....	65	2	.....	67	208	14,541
Maine.....	44	.....	.....	44	93	5,731
Maryland.....	8	18	.....	26	73	5,741
Massachusetts.....	115	.....	.....	115	167	12,372
Michigan.....	200	68	2	270	827	55,004
Minnesota.....	105	.....	.....	105	227	52,125
Mississippi.....	150	2	1	153	311	30,000
Missouri.....	58	44	2	104	256	2,500
Montana.....	41	6	.....	47	100	6,946
Nebraska.....	88	56	6	150	480	67,241
Nevada.....	7	2	1	10	20	665
New Hampshire.....	11	2	.....	13	28	2,900
New Jersey.....	23	7	.....	30	111	5,538
New Mexico.....	1	.....	.....	1	3	.....
New York.....	129	128	4	261	967	87,439
North Carolina.....	58	3	.....	61	226	11,168
North Dakota.....	47	13	1	61	140	12,838
Ohio.....	2	279	.....	281	1,399	92,593
Oklahoma.....	39	19	.....	58	156	5,500
Oregon.....	12	6	.....	18	54	5,500
Pennsylvania.....	44	150	2	196	862	150,932
Porto Rico ^a.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Rhode Island.....	.....	1	.....	1	6	400
South Carolina.....	33	.....	.....	33	56	7,460
South Dakota ^a.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tennessee ^a.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Texas.....	104	6	.....	110	146	8,500
Utah.....	3	12	.....	15	40	^b 8,000
Vermont.....	40	.....	.....	40	80	7,500
Virginia.....	35	.....	.....	35	70	8,000
Washington.....	17	26	3	46	150	7,282
West Virginia.....	16	46	1	63	199	9,450
Wisconsin.....	.....	81	1	82	270	43,000
Wyoming.....	.....	.....	1	1	7	75
Total.....	1,842	1,307	122	3,271	10,555	995,192

^a No institutes held.^b Estimated.

Financial statistics of the farmers' institutes for the year ended June 30, 1905

State or Territory.	Funds appropriated.		Cost.		Appropriations for the season of 1905-6.
	State	College and other funds.	Total cost.	Cost per session.	
Alabama.....	\$600.00		^b \$600.00	\$12.50	\$600.00
Alaska ^a					
Arizona.....					
Arkansas.....		\$400.00	400.00	6.66	250.00
California.....	6,000.00	2,934.00	^b 8,934.00	20.82	6,000.00
Colorado.....					4,000.00
Connecticut.....	428.00		428.00	15.30	
Delaware.....	750.00		750.00	32.60	750.00
Florida ^a					
Georgia.....	2,500.00	1,000.00	3,500.00	32.40	3,500.00
Hawaii.....		35.00	35.00	4.37	35.00
Idaho.....	1,000.00		^b 1,000.00	8.84	1,000.00
Illinois.....	17,650.00	3,310.39	17,257.90	27.17	17,650.00
Indiana.....	10,000.00		10,000.00	11.32	10,000.00
Indian Territory ^a					
Iowa.....	7,425.00		3,814.60	18.42	7,425.00
Kansas.....	2,000.00		^b 1,760.00	12.22	2,000.00
Kentucky.....	1,206.16		^b 1,206.16	16.52	3,000.00
Louisiana.....	2,000.00	500.00	2,500.00	9.61	2,000.00
Maine.....	5,000.00		5,000.00	53.76	3,000.00
Maryland.....	6,000.00		3,618.70	49.55	6,000.00
Massachusetts.....	2,700.00		^b 1,474.24	8.82	3,000.00
Michigan.....	7,500.00	1,800.00	9,300.00	11.24	7,500.00
Minnesota.....	18,000.00		18,000.00	79.29	18,000.00
Mississippi.....	3,000.00		3,000.00	9.64	3,000.00
Missouri.....	3,100.00		3,100.00	12.10	5,000.00
Montana.....	4,000.00	500.00	4,500.00	40.00	4,000.00
Nebraska.....	6,000.00		6,000.00	12.50	6,000.00
Nevada.....		379.00	379.00	18.95	
New Hampshire.....	1,600.00		^b 1,500.00	53.58	1,500.00
New Jersey.....	1,838.15		1,838.15	16.56	3,500.00
New Mexico.....					
New York.....	20,000.00		20,000.00	20.60	20,000.00
North Carolina.....	2,150.00		^b 1,971.52	8.72	1,700.00
North Dakota.....	3,931.94	240.00	3,948.17	28.20	6,000.00
Ohio.....	16,747.62	2,851.06	19,598.68	14.00	16,747.62
Oklahoma.....					
Oregon.....		620.00	620.00	11.48	2,500.00
Pennsylvania.....	20,500.00		20,500.00	23.78	20,500.00
Porto Rico ^a					
Rhode Island.....		100.00	100.00	16.66	
South Carolina.....		1,194.56	1,194.56	21.33	1,500.00
South Dakota ^a					5,000.00
Tennessee ^a					
Texas.....	2,600.00	1,250.00	3,850.00	26.37	1,500.00
Utah.....	1,500.00		^b 1,500.00	37.50	1,500.00
Vermont.....	5,000.00		2,083.75	26.00	5,000.00
Virginia.....	5,500.00		5,000.00	71.42	5,500.00
Washington.....	2,500.00	500.00	3,000.00	20.00	
West Virginia.....	2,455.26		2,455.26	12.33	
Wisconsin.....	12,000.00	2,942.75	14,942.75	55.34	12,000.00
Wyoming.....					1,000.00
Total.....	205,182.13	20,556.76	210,660.44	988.47	219,157.62
Average.....				24.10	

^a No institutes held.^b Salary of directors and college and station speakers not included.

Comparative statement of farmers' institutes.

State or Territory.	Appropriations.			Number of sessions.		Number of institutes.			Attendance.		
	1902-3.	1903-4.	1904-5.	1903-4.	1904-5.	1902-3.	1903-4.	1904-5.	1902-3.	1903-4.	1904-5.
Alabama.....	\$600	\$600	\$600	49	48	22	24	24	2,618	3,639	3,820
Alaska ^a											
Arizona.....	60	50		15	12	2	1	1	1,000	600	250
Arkansas.....			400		60			30			7,650
California.....	4,000	7,234	8,934	380	429	60	113	110	20,000	43,680	43,494
Colorado.....	385	517		36	52	10	15	20	1,300	1,660	2,700
Connecticut.....	700	200	428	36	28	9	18	14	4,000	2,500	1,200
Delaware.....	800	750	750	42	23	28	18	20	4,800	3,436	4,199
Florida ^a	2,500			32		21	15		2,900	1,605	
Georgia.....	1,000	1,000	3,500	68	108	15	34	44	3,500	7,000	18,000
Hawaii.....	35	30	35	8	8	4	4	4	160	200	350
Idaho.....	1,000	1,000	1,000	74	113	17	17	25	2,550	3,100	4,000
Illinois.....	18,150	18,173	20,960	609	635	108	105	100	42,876	84,681	69,759
Indiana.....	10,000	10,000	10,000	832	883	181	175	250	73,653	59,189	79,964
Indian Territory ^a											
Iowa.....	7,425	7,425	7,425	350	207	64	70	60	17,750	17,750	618,000
Kansas.....	2,000	2,000	2,000		144	92	58	55	38,085	14,432	11,455
Kentucky.....	1,200	500	1,206	8	73	8	4	17	2,000	1,200	3,350
Louisiana.....	2,000	2,000	2,500	79	208	50	39	67	13,245	12,000	14,541
Maine.....	3,000	2,500	5,000	79	93	40	37	44	5,846	5,473	5,731
Maryland.....	4,000	4,000	6,000	71	73	40	23	26	11,222	3,250	5,741
Massachusetts.....	2,000	1,630	2,700	125	167	120	104	115	12,487	11,039	12,372
Michigan.....	7,500	9,825	9,300	812	827	284	292	270	53,087	52,236	55,004
Minnesota.....	16,500	18,000	18,000	378	227	100	154	105	35,171	46,210	52,125
Mississippi.....	1,500	1,725	3,000	214	311	58	107	153	20,000	11,326	30,000
Missouri.....	4,000	5,000	3,100	311	256	127	147	104	25,400	30,220	2,560
Montana.....	2,000	4,000	4,500	81	100	16	44	47	600	4,500	6,946
Nebraska.....	4,000	6,000	6,000	330	480	65	96	150	25,000	25,097	67,241
Nevada.....	120	83	379	10	20	3	4	10	983	453	665
New Hampshire.....	1,000	1,588	1,600	38	28	18	13	13	6,300	3,400	2,900
New Jersey.....	2,000	1,800	1,838	119	111	31	30	30	6,850	4,500	5,538
New Mexico.....	125	28		9	3	3	4	1	375	160	
New York.....	20,000	20,000	20,000	1,154	967	312	267	261	138,528	64,347	87,439
North Carolina.....	600	850	2,150	71	226	15	35	61	1,525	8,411	11,168
North Dakota.....	1,500	4,000	4,172	151	140	19	46	61	2,655	13,567	12,838
Ohio.....	16,981	16,747	19,599	1,225	1,399	263	245	281	81,752	75,360	92,593
Oklahoma.....	1,000	1,000		129	156	29	52	58		5,200	5,500
Oregon.....	300	350	620	46	54	20	14	18	4,000	4,500	5,500
Pennsylvania.....	15,000	20,500	20,500	805	862	327	204	196	112,550	70,380	150,932
Porto Rico ^a											
Rhode Island.....	44	600	100	21	6	1	12	1	20	1,260	400
South Carolina.....	1,150	600	1,195		56	50	33	33	14,390	8,690	7,460
South Dakota ^a											
Tennessee ^a	2,500	5,000		200		40	72		10,000	8,300	
Texas.....	2,100	3,950	3,850	178	146	64	144	110	5,376	15,130	8,500
Utah.....	1,500	1,500	1,500	65	40	40	59	15	3,200	12,000	8,000
Vermont.....	5,000	5,000	5,000	125	80	41	48	40	16,400	10,000	7,500
Virginia.....		3,500	5,500	100	70	72	50	35	18,000	10,000	8,000
Washington.....	2,500	2,500	3,000	259	150	12	57	46	1,800	15,922	7,282
West Virginia.....	5,451	4,556	2,455	386	199	158	97	63	15,750	12,095	9,450
Wisconsin.....	12,000	12,000	14,943	512	270	120	101	82	55,000	52,000	43,000
Wyoming.....					7			1			75
Total.....	187,226	210,211	225,739	10,622	10,555	3,179	3,306	3,271	904,654	841,698	995,192

^aNo institutes 1904-5.^bEstimated.

Number of lecturers employed by the State directors of farmers' institutes during the year ended June 30, 1905.

State or Territory.	Total number of lecturers on the State force.	Number of members of agricultural college and experiment station staffs engaged in institute work.	Number of days contributed to institute work by the agricultural college and experiment station staffs.	Total number of days of institutes held during the year.	Reports of proceedings.	
					Published.	Number of copies.
Alabama.....	9	7	100	25	No.....	
Alaska ^a	1				No.....	
Arizona.....	1	1	5	5	No.....	
Arkansas.....	4	4	36	30	No.....	
California.....	19	10	100	186	Yes.....	12,500
Colorado.....	12	11	50	24	No.....	
Connecticut.....	30	6		14	No.....	
Delaware.....	9	2	10	20	Yes.....	5,000
Florida ^a						
Georgia.....	13	7		54	Yes.....	5,000
Hawaii.....	4	4	16	4	No.....	
Idaho.....	10	10	50	46	Yes.....	5,000
Illinois.....	114	28	190	250	Yes.....	20,000
Indiana.....	46	8	23	367	Yes.....	1,000
Indian Territory ^a						
Iowa.....				147	No.....	
Kansas.....	19	19	320	93	No.....	
Kentucky.....	15	3	35	35	Yes.....	10,000
Louisiana.....	23	13	60	69	Yes.....	3,500
Maine.....	21	4	25	44	Yes.....	6,000
Maryland.....	16	8		44	No.....	
Massachusetts.....	71	10	40	115	No.....	
Michigan.....	47	21	90	342	Yes.....	9,000
Minnesota.....	10			105	Yes.....	35,000
Mississippi.....	24	22	396	157	No.....	
Missouri.....	26			152	Yes.....	10,000
Montana.....	18	10	122	53	Yes.....	5,000
Nebraska.....	29	18	82	218	No.....	
Nevada.....	6	5	17	14	Yes.....	750
New Hampshire.....	14	7	14	15	Yes.....	2,000
New Jersey.....	10	3	40	37	No.....	
New Mexico.....	10	1	1	1	No.....	
New York.....	60	20	195	397	Yes.....	25,000
North Carolina.....	18	6	22	64	Yes.....	25,000
North Dakota.....	8	5	22	76	Yes.....	10,000
Ohio.....	29			560	Yes.....	20,000
Oklahoma.....	8	5	65	75	No.....	
Oregon.....	8	4	54	24	No.....	
Pennsylvania.....	56	2	62	350	Yes.....	31,600
Porto Rico ^a						
Rhode Island.....	12	1	1	2	No.....	
South Carolina.....	12	12	94	33	No.....	
South Dakota ^a						
Tennessee ^a	9					
Texas.....	24			116	No.....	
Utah.....	15	15	75	27	Yes.....	7,000
Vermont.....	26	4	30	40	Yes.....	3,000
Virginia.....	9	9	60	35	No.....	
Washington.....	15	9	156	78	No.....	
West Virginia.....	22	5	23	111	Yes.....	12,000
Wisconsin.....	31	8	8	165	Yes.....	60,000
Wyoming.....	3			3	No.....	
Total.....	995	347	2,689	4,822		323,350

^a No institutes.

Table showing the population of the several States and Territories in 1900, the total number of homes, the number of farm homes, the per cent of farm homes, and the approximate population in farm homes.

State or Territory.	Population.	Total number of homes. ^a	Number of farm homes. ^a	Per cent of farm homes. ^a	Approximate population in farm homes.
Alabama.....	1,828,697	374,765	217,461	58	1,060,644
Alaska.....	63,592	13,459	27	.2	127
Arizona.....	122,931	29,875	7,391	24.7	30,362
Arkansas.....	1,311,564	265,238	176,017	66.4	870,878
California.....	1,485,053	341,781	71,119	20.8	308,891
Colorado.....	539,700	127,459	24,745	19.4	104,701
Connecticut.....	908,420	203,424	26,609	13.1	119,003
Delaware.....	184,735	39,446	9,677	24.5	45,260
Florida.....	528,542	117,001	40,965	35	184,989
Georgia.....	2,216,331	455,557	221,395	48.6	1,077,138
Hawaii.....	154,001	36,922	1,409	3.8	5,852
Idaho.....	161,772	37,491	17,153	45.8	74,091
Illinois.....	4,821,550	1,036,158	262,388	25.3	1,219,852
Indiana.....	2,516,462	571,513	221,451	38.7	973,870
Indian Territory.....	392,060	76,701	47,594	62.1	187,579
Iowa.....	2,231,853	480,878	223,525	46.5	1,037,811
Kansas.....	1,470,495	321,947	167,006	51.9	763,186
Kentucky.....	2,147,174	437,054	234,821	53.7	1,153,032
Louisiana.....	1,381,625	284,875	114,214	40.1	554,031
Maine.....	694,466	163,344	57,153	35	243,063
Maryland.....	1,188,044	242,331	47,089	19.4	230,480
Massachusetts.....	2,805,346	613,659	36,510	5.9	165,515
Michigan.....	2,420,982	548,094	202,457	36.9	893,342
Minnesota.....	1,751,394	342,658	152,393	44.5	779,470
Mississippi.....	1,551,270	318,948	221,110	69.3	1,075,030
Missouri.....	3,106,665	654,333	282,840	43.2	1,340,079
Montana.....	243,329	55,889	13,909	24.9	60,588
Nebraska.....	1,066,300	220,947	116,854	52.9	564,072
Nevada.....	42,335	11,190	2,164	19.3	8,170
New Hampshire.....	411,588	97,902	28,271	28.9	118,948
New Jersey.....	1,883,669	415,222	35,337	8.5	160,111
New Mexico.....	195,310	46,355	13,102	28.3	55,272
New York.....	7,268,894	1,634,523	227,822	13.9	1,010,376
North Carolina.....	1,893,810	370,072	223,831	60.5	1,145,755
North Dakota.....	319,146	64,690	44,112	68.2	217,657
Ohio.....	4,157,545	944,433	280,068	29.7	1,237,790
Oklahoma.....	398,331	86,908	63,094	72.6	289,188
Oregon.....	413,536	91,214	36,156	39.6	163,760
Pennsylvania.....	6,302,115	1,320,025	225,565	17.1	1,077,661
Rhode Island.....	428,556	94,179	5,638	6	25,713
South Carolina.....	1,340,316	269,864	152,993	56.7	759,959
South Dakota.....	401,570	83,536	51,937	62.2	249,776
Tennessee.....	2,020,616	402,536	226,027	56.2	1,135,585
Texas.....	3,048,710	589,291	341,889	58	1,768,251
Utah.....	276,749	56,196	19,529	34.8	96,308
Vermont.....	343,641	81,462	32,871	40.4	138,830
Virginia.....	1,854,184	364,517	170,412	46.8	867,758
Washington.....	518,103	113,086	33,931	30	155,430
West Virginia.....	958,800	186,291	94,566	50.8	487,070
Wisconsin.....	2,069,042	436,063	169,531	39.8	823,478
Wyoming.....	92,531	20,116	5,939	29.5	27,296
Total.....	75,933,450	16,191,418	5,700,067	1,908.4	26,143,078
Average.....				37.4	

^a U. S. Census, 1900, Population, Vol. II, p. CLXXXVIII.

